XVII JUNE, 1927 No. 9

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# THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

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# THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

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The new Minister President of State: General Baron Giichi Tanaka, President of the Seiyukai Party.

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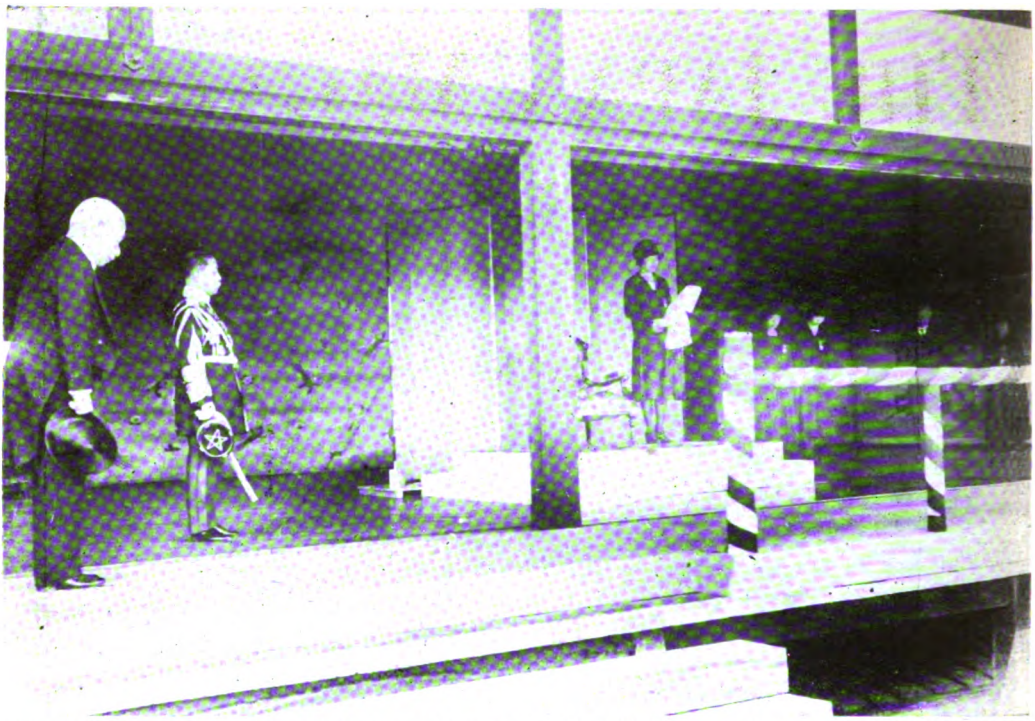

The 35th annual convention of the Japan Red Cross. H. I. H. Princess Asaka reading H. M. the Empress' message. To the left is H. I. H. Prince Kanin, Honorary President (in uniform) and the President of the Red cross, Baron Shigenobu Hirayama.

The new Tanaka cabinet (left to right): K. Mochizuki (Communications), C. Mitsuchi (Education), Admiral K. Okada (Navy), T. Nakahashi (Commerce and Industry), Korekiyo Takahashi (Finance), Baron Tanaka, (Premier and Foreign Minister pro tem.), H. Ogawa (Railroads), T. Yamamoto (Agriculture and Forestry), General Y. Shirakawa (Army), K. Suzuki (Home Affairs), Y. Hara (Justice), Standing behind the Premier is I. Hatoyama, Secretary to the Cabinet.

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# THE JAPAN MAGAZINE

A REPRESENTATIVE MONTHLY OF THINGS JAPANESE

Vol. XVII JUNE, 1927 No. 9

## The Seiyukai In Power Again

ON April 17, the Wakatsuki Ministry resigned due to the Privy Council having unanimously disapproved at its plenary meeting that day the Government's proposal for an urgent Imperial ordinance to be issued for the relief of the Taiwan Bank.

Up to then not a few banks had failed owing to the financial stagnancy, which made the people nervous, resulting in runs on some banks. In the meantime, the discussion in the Diet of the Government bill for compensation for losses on bills issued after the earthquake aroused a storm. After the end of the session, the difficulties of the Bank of Taiwan proved the rock on which the Wakatsuki Kenseikai Ministry was finally wrecked.

As to who would succeed to the reins of power aroused intense interest. The Imperial appointment was at last given to Baron Tanaka, President of the Seiyu Party.

At 10.50 a.m. on the 19th, the Baron was summoned by the Emperor by telephone, and at 11.25 a.m., he proceeded to the Akasaka Palace. He was received at once by the Emperor, who ordered him to form a Cabinet. He asked for time for preparation and left the Palace at 11.30 a.m.

At 2 p.m. on the 20th, Baron Tanaka again went to the Palace and had audience of the Emperor, to whom he presented the names of his Cabinet members.

At 6.40 p.m., the installation of Baron Tanaka as Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs was held with ceremony the Palace, attended by Admiral Takarabe, retiring Naval Minister, and then that of the other new Ministers, attended by Premier Baron Tanaka.

The Wakatsuki Cabinet was formed on January 29, 1926. It now opposes the new Tanaka Ministry and is presided over by Mr. Wakatsuki. His Cabinet collapsed in one year and four months.

The new Premier is a General and the head of a military clique. He held the army portfolio twice in the past. He was expected then to be appointed field marshal in the near future, but he gave up the hope of that honor and entered the political world in the spring of 1925, when he was made President of the Seiyu Party.

Since then, only one year has passed, and though a politician of unknown capacity has unexpectedly early attained power.

The Baron was born in 1863 and is 65 years of age. In 1886, he graduated from the Military Cadet School and was appointed sub-lieutenant. Then he enter-

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ed the Military College, and after graduating from it, he attracted the attention of General Prince Yamagata, who was the most powerful of the military leaders and he rose rapidly to prominence. He was appointed Director of the Bureau of Military Affairs and Vice-Chief of the Military Staff Office, before he was appointed in 1918 Minister of Army under the late Mr. Hara. He held that portfolio until 1920, when he resigned.

In 1923, just before the earthquake, he held the same ministerial position under Admiral Count Yamamoto. But he retired to private life in December, the same year, when the Yamamoto Cabinet resigned holding themselves responsible for the "Torano-mon affair."

He is open-hearted and is not particular about trifles. He is considered the most for sighted man in military circles. He is very human which has won for him the hearts of his military and political followers. Once, he and his wife attended the funeral service of a small charcoal dealer, who had been his orderly, an anecdote that is told as an illustration of his warm-heartedness.

When ordering him to form a Cabinet, the Emperor is said to have desired Baron Tanaka to consider especially carefully means to stabilize the financial world and to deal with sending diplomatic questions. He was much moved by the Imperial message. He succeeded in persuading Mr. Takahashi, formerly the President of the Seiyu Party, to take up the hard task of dealing with the existing financial situation. Another feature in the personnel of the new Ministry is that Dr. Y. Hara was selected for the portfolio of Justice from outside the Seiyu Party. This is regarded as the realization of that part of Baron Tanaka's speech to the party at its last meeting advocating the independence of the judiciary as part of its new policy.

How the financial situation will be relieved and how the Chinese question will be solved rests largely with the new Premier, and it will determine the fate of his Cabinet.

On April 22, the Premier presented to the anxious nation his first statement, a summary of which follows.

In domestic administration, the existing feeling of insecurity must be removed, the national spirit aroused, the state established upon an industrial basis as a cardinal principle, education reformed, decentralization effected, the development of rural communities urged, a social policy carried out and the dignity of justice maintained. In diplomacy, the existing most important question for Japan and the Far East is the political situation in China, and he expresses profound sympathy with the Chinese people in their reasonable demands, and will willingly give them proper aid in having such demands accepted, carefully considering the foreign and domestic situation. He is convinced that between China and the Powers, there exists a way for satisfying the proper demands of the Chinese people without any grave diplomatic situation to be created, which the Chinese people are desired to most carefully consider. Regarding the communistic movement in China, Japan cannot be entirely indifferent to it, as she stands in a position to receive a direct and most serious effect and she feel herself greatly responsible for preserving the peace of Eastern Asia. Not only

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that, but the matter is very serious from the viewpoint of the world's peace and the welfare of mankind, and it would seem to be necessary for Japan to co-operate with the Powers as a matter of course, if time, the question, and the means taken necessitate it. Finally as to Japan's relations with the Powers in general, her proper economic development will be welcomed by them, and Japan will co-operate with them in preserving the peace of the world and in promoting the welfare and happiness of mankind.

The new Ministry is composed as follows:

| | |
|---|---|
| Prime Minister and Foreign Minister | Baron G. Tanaka |
| Home Minister | Mr. K. Suzuki |
| Finance Minister | Mr. K. Takahashi |
| Army Minister | General Y. Shirakawa |
| Naval Minister | Admiral K. Okada |
| Minister of Justice | Dr. Y. Hara |
| Minister of Education | Mr. C. Mitsuchi |
| Minister of Agriculture and Forestry | Mr. T. Yamamoto |
| Minister of Commerce and Industry | Mr. T. Nakabashi |
| Communication Minister | Mr. K. Mochizuki |
| Railway Minister | Mr. H. Ogawa |

The new French Ambassador in Tokyo, M. Robert de Billy (center), successor to M. Paul Claudel, transferred to Washington.

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# China's Unrest and Japanese Concessions

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# China's Unrest and Japanese Concessions

*By Dr. M. Takayanagi, Hogaku-hakushi*
**Chief Secretary, Osaka Chamber of Commerce**

WHEN the Revolution of 1911 overthrew the Manchu Dynasty, it was generally expected that the Chinese people would succeed in establishing a solid republic. But the experience of the past sixteen year of the new régime has entirely betrayed this expectation.

Not merely has the republican administration failed to bring about effective results but it has proved worse than the old régime. China has now degenerated into the worst form of feudalism, her political condition being deteriorated, with no Constitution, no representative government, no civil and commercial codes.

The Peking Government is only nominal. Within the past sixteen years, the Presidency has changed twenty-eight times, while there have taken place more than fifty cabinet changes. Today the Republic lacks a President; the Government's power is so weak that it is hardly extended beyond Peking; it has often proved even incapable to pay the officials' salaries. Particularly in these several years, civil wars have been the order of the day, wily militarists and political demagogues fighting among themselves for their own selfish interests, with no conception of patriotic service.

The repeated disturbances have left the people in general in the greatest misery, while enormous losses have been sustained directly or indirectly by foreign residents. However, the powers have hitherto been compelled to remain as bystanders under the principle of non-intervention, as long as these disturbances were domestic.

However, the Kuominchun, new militarist forces organized at Canton, invaded Hunan last summer, and have ever since carried the day in Hupeh, Kiangsi, Fukien, Chekiang, and Kiangsu,—all the territory south of the Yangtsze Valley. It must be remarked that this warfare of the Cantonese Army is of a different nature from the civil wars fought with Peking or Canton as their centre.

The speciality of the Nationalist Army consists in its ultimate aim at accomplishing a National Revolution, by exterminating the militarist faction of the North and destroying what they consider the Powers' imperialist and Capitalist policies towards China and abolishing the exisling unilateral treaties. This is why the present unrest is regarded as a direct menace to the special rights enjoyed by the Powers in China.

For instance, the Nationalist forces wrested away the British Concessions at Hankow and Kiukiang by force; they are impatient to try to apply the same method to the foreign settlements at Shanghai; by a systematic method they looted the consulates, schools, hospitals, shops and individual residences at Nanking; the Japanese Concession at Hankow was subjected to their outrages and violence.

The Kuominchun is endeavouring to

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recover all the foreign concessions and rights in China, hand in hand with the Communist Party. Although they declare that their program of recovery is peaceful and rational, they are in fact no different from the Boxers of 1900, so far as they resort to force wherever the Powers' armament is insufficient to cope with them.

It may be appropriate to consider the so-called foreign concessions in China as implying special rights or privileges enjoyed by foreign nations or individuals, of quite a peculiar character, not purely economic interests such as pertaining to trade and enterprises. These foreign concessions are divided into two classes: those enjoyed in common by the Powers and those individual to each Power.

Of the first, mention should be made of the so-called unequal rights, the focus of criticism by the Kuominchun and Chinese people at large, such as: (1) Tariff Conventions, (2) Extraterritoriality, (3) Foreign Settlements, (4) Coastwise Trade Rights (including river trade) of Foreign Vessels, (5) Foreighers' Control of Maritime Customs, Postal Admistration and Salt Gabelle, (6) Foreign Forces stationed at Peking and between Peking and Haikow, and (7) Churches, Schools and Hospitals under foreign management.

Needless to say, Japan is more or less interested in these special rights. Then, from what have all these rights emanated? They have been produced from the treaties, conventions and agreements, for the mutual benefit of the powers and China, within the past eighty years since China was opened to international intercourse, and not resulting from the Powers' oppression of China as the Chinese people in general and some Japanese seem to imagine.

Nor are they to the detriment of China; on the contrary, it should be admitted that some of these special rights enjoyed by foreigners have contributed to a great extent to China's administration, finance and economics, and development of her culture.

For instance, it is right to say that (1) and (4) have rather fostered than checked China's economic expansion; (5) has obviously been a large contribution to her financial and economic development; (3) and (6) are essential for the residence and trading as well as the safety of lives and properties of foreign residents; (2) is unavoidable treaty provisions so long as the Chinese judicial system remains inadequate. Lastly, as to (7), it is absurd that the Chinese people denounce it as trespassing on their right of culture, although it is admitted that some evils accompanied it in the past. China should not forget the precious services rendered by foreign missionaries and educationists to the promotion of her civilization.

It seems that the present-day Chinese have hardly any room to consider coolheadedly and give right judgment on whatever problems concern their relation with foreigners. They seem to be firmly convinced that solely because of the existence of the unequal treaties China is always insulted by the Powers, her civil wars know no end, and no national unification can be realized, and that once these unequal treaties are abolished their country will immediately enjoy unity and peace.

In my opinion, however, China will

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remain as she is, so long as her national temperament is not improved and she is not placed under a more rigid political discipline, even if the abolition of the unequal treaties and the recovery of all the foreign concessions were carried into effect.

For this reason, it is an unwise policy on Japan's part to take the lead in abandoning such special rights or privileges common to all the Powers, following the example of Russia, whose trade and industrial interests in China are less than one-thousandth of those of Japan. Besides, what necessity exi ts to place our own interests in a disadvantageous position in comparison with the other Powers, with whom we are actually in competition?

Now, what are the special rights of Japan? They may be divided into two kinds: first, those pertaining to Mancuria, and, second, those outside of Manchuria. As our country has already surrendered its rights in Shantung by virtue of the Washington Convention of 1922, what is now remaining in the second category is rights relative to loans to China. The principal of these loans are:

(1) Han-yeh-ping Coal Mining Loan: The Han-yeh-ping Company is a large concern engaged in coal mining and iron manufacture since the time of the old Ching Dynasty. It was specially agreed that the Company supplies ores and pig-iron to the Yawata Iron Foundry of the Japanese Government in return for the principal and interest of the latter's investment to an amount of scores of millions of yen. By the Sino-Japanese Convention dated May 25, 1915 it was agreed that the Chinese Government would agree to the subsequent proposition of a joint management of the Han-yeh-ping Company, in case of such a proposition being later made; that it should not nationalize the Company unless upon the consent of the capitalists; that the Company should not accept any foreign loan but Japanese.

After the conclusion of the above agreement the company found it difficul. to continue its work, as a result of continuous internal disturbances and the merciless exaction by warlords, with the necessary consequence of its inability of supplying Japan with ores and pigiron as had been contracted.

Thereupon, Japan increased her investment in the company so as to improve the management. Under these circumstance, needless to say, Japan will never give up this special right in view of the iron-manufacturing enterprise of the country, while it was for the mutual benefit of both Japan and China that the former country started her investment in the company.

(2) Shongchiao Wireless Rights: By virtue of this right the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha established a large radio station at Shongchiao on the outskirts of Peking, under a special contract with the Navy Ministry of China, and obtained the privilege of monopolizing the business for a certain period.

However, the contract the Chinese Government subsequently entered into with the Federal Company of America for another radio undertaking has given rise to a complicated international controversy between Japan and the United States, which is still pending.

Should America abandon her right and the Mitsui Bussan Kaisha be paid com-

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pensation for its installation expenditure of the Shongchiao Wireless, the Japanese Government would not necessarily insist on its privilege.

(3) Exclusive Settlements: Japan now has exclusive settlements at Tientsin, Hankow, Hangchow, Soochow, Amoy, Foochow, Shasi and Chungking, of which the only thriving ones are those at Tientsin and Hankow. The rendition of the other concessions to China will be of no considerable material loss, while no necessity is found for the surrender of the Tientsin and Hankow Settlements, in view of the residence and trading of the Japanese there.

(4) Shantung Railway Loan: In return for the surrender of the Shantung Railway to the Chinese Government by virtue of the Washington Agreement, the latter Government is indebted to Japan to an amount of scores of million yen on the mortgage of that railway's revenue, and the traffic and finance are actually supervised by Japanese officials. The recent internal troubles, however, have left the railway in a stagnant condition, the reimbursement of the loan by the Chinese Government being held up. This railway loan problem will be smoothly solved, provided that China pays back to Japan the principal and interest in full.

(5) Nishihara Loan: This is an unsecured loan made to the Tuan Chi-jui Ministry, of about 300,000,000 yen, by the Terauchi Cabinet through Mr. Nishihara during the Great War. The problem of this loan which is still left not reimbursed can be settled on China's full payment.

Besides, the Yokohama Specie Bank, the Oriental Industrial Company, the China-Japan Industrial Development Company and others are loaning to China's railway and mining enterprieses. These investors only desire to have their loans paid back, and will make no objection to China's recovery of those concessions.

The special rights of Japan in Manchuria originated in the Russo-Japanese War, not to the aftermath of the Sino-Japanese War. Had it not been for the Three-Power Intervention in the wake of the latter war, as a result of China's crafty diplomatic policy toward Japan, the intricate question of the Japanese special rights would not have arisen.

The Japanese concessions in Manchuria are complicated and widely extended, such as the lease of Lioatung Peninsula, the business rights of the South Manchuria Railway, the colliery rights at Fushun, and Penhsihu, the iron mining at Anshanten, the forestry rights on the Yalu River, the Kirin-Changchun and other Manchuria and Mongolian railways.

The leased territory of Liaotung Peninsula was wrested from Russia by the blood of the Japanese people,—rather a territory ceded by Russia to Japan. To surrender this to China today would be a dangerous experiment, so long as she is so unstable and lacks national unification. The Japanese nation will not do so.

As for the South Manchuria Railway rights and other concessions in Manchuria, it will be safer and more advantageous for the development of the district that they remain in Japan's hands. Furthermore, in view of the enormous amount of capital already invested by Japan, China is for the time being not in a position to claim the recovery of those rights from Japan. Besides, Japan's position in Man-

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churia is important from the political and strategical viewpoints, and she will be compelled to take drastic measures in the event of China's extending her "rights-recovery" movement to Manchuria.

Rationally speaking, Japan may have no reason for opposing the claims of the Kuominchun, whose superficial object, at least, is unifying the whole country and emancipating it from the hands of the Powers, if she is China's neighbour. We would rather welcome this new movement of China. However, if the nationalist movement is imbued with Bolshevism in any way, accompanied by the destruction of social order and anti-foreignism, Japan can on no account remain as an onlooker, as she is so closely connected with China as her neighbour politically and economically. Moreover, she may find herself forced to call on China for grave reflection, if the latter continues to insist only upon her international rights, without fulfilling her international obligations.

I am firmly confident, however, that such questions as the abolition of the unequal treaties and the rendition of foreign concessions will be easily solved, if China is fortunate enough to carry out her unification by herself and establish a central government on a solid foundation.

"Tango-no-sekku"—the famed festival for boys in Japan, on May 5—the photograph shows some of the warrior dolls and decorations used.

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# Tokyo in Resuscitation

## (I)

### The Earthquake Disaster

The earthquake of September 1, 1923 worked unprecedented damage in five prefectures in the Kwanto or Eastern Japan. The shock was less in magnitude than the one in the Genroku era (in 1703) or that in the Ansei era (in 1855). But fires originating in the smashed buildings, and the accompanying whirlwinds greatly aggravated the consequences of the earthquake. Tokyo was ablaze for two days and nights, presenting conditions almost impossible to describe.

In Tokyo, the burned area was 8,987 acres, or 46 per cent. of the total area of 19,582 acres of the city, making 1,545,-029 persons, 68 per cent. of the total population, homeless. And 58,104 persons lost their lives and 10,556 persons were missing.

The citizens were terrified, some advocated the capital being transferred to another place. On September 12, an Imperial rescript was issued, admonishing the earthquake-stricken people to meet the situation with self-possession. This calmed the popular agitation and infused an intrepid spirit among them to go forward bravely with re-construction. Since then, their exertions have been directed energetically toward the resuscitation of the capital and other cities.

### The Cost

The total cost of resuscitation of the earthquake stricken zone is estimated at 745,115,248 yen, of which 182,640,100 yen is the cost of the rehabilitation of Tokyo, to be defrayed from the National Treasury up to 50,156,707 yen and that to be borne by the Municipality being 132,483,393 yen. Work was started in the fiscal year of 1923-1924 and is to be completed in seven years, or in the fiscal year 1929-1930.

The first thing to do was the re-adjustment of land in the burned area of 10,000,000 *tsubo*. The area was divided into 66 parts, of which 15 were apportioned to the Home Minister and 51 to the city of Tokyo for re-adjustment. The work has been steadily in progress since then. The removal of houses and other buildings will be concluded in the fiscal year of 1928-1929.

### Street Improvement

The creation and improvement of streets is the most important factor in the program. This program calls, according to the conditions of traffic, for trunk streets of not less than 22 metres in width, subsidiary streets of not less than 11 metres in width and numerous smaller streets. A trunk street of not less than 33 metres in width will be ornamented. The work is being undertaken gradually where the re-adjustment of land is progressing, and proper consideration is being given to street building according to the conditions of the commercial, industrial and residential quarters.

The roads in Tokyo that are being built or improved at the national expense, are 52 in number, covering over 119,008 metres in total. Already, the whole has been surveyed, and 2 of them have been completed, 66 per cent. designed entirely

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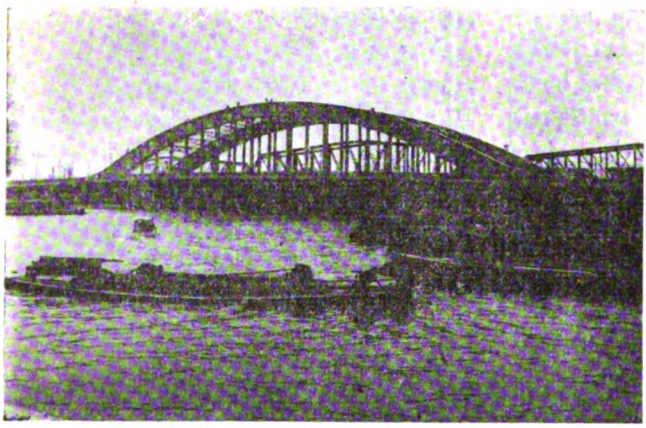
or partly and 35 per cent. being under construction. There are 65,000 *tsubo* of wide streets already ornamented or are being given that finish.

The subsidiary streets to be built at the Municipal expense number 122, the whole length of which is 76,321 *ken*, of which 31 have already been completed.



The new Eitai Bridge, Tokyo. Its predecessors were famed in the history of the capital, especially when it fore the old name of Yedo.

## Bridge Building

Bridge building is another most important factor of the reconstruction work. There are about 500 bridges to be built at the Municipal expense. They have been designed and built quickly one after another, due to the comparative ease of obtaining the necessary ground and to freedom from complicated questions of rights and obligations as accompanied the acquisition of ground for streets from owners.

Of the six big bridges over the Sumida River to be constructed at the national expense, the Aioi Bridge and the Eitai Bridge have been completed. Those to be built across trunk streets number 97 and those to be re-built over improved canals number 21, making a total of 118, of which 25 have been completed, 31 are building and 42 in preparation to be built. These are for the national account, and those to be built at the Municipal expense are 308 in number, of which 35 have been completed, 16 are building and 56 are in preparation to be built or are being designed.

Special care has been exercised in designing and building these bridges to make them earthquake and fire proof. Their enlarged widths are facilitating traffic more than before, and consideration is being given to extending the under space for the benefit of navigation.

Under the new Eitai Bridge, the soil is very soft, which necessitated the dredging of the river to the depth of 100 feet below the surface on an average, in order to reach solid ground. The foundation work was started by means of compressed air caissons sunk to the depth of 80 or 90 feet below the low-water level. The bridge was so designed as to not spoil the view of the river.

## Public Gardens

Before the earthquake, the area of public gardens in Tokyo was about 750,000 *tsubo*, 31 per cent. of the total area. The resuscitation program has extended the area by 110,000 *tsubo*, increasing the above percentage to 36 per cent. Under it, three big new public gardens will be laid out, namely, Hamacho Park, Sumida

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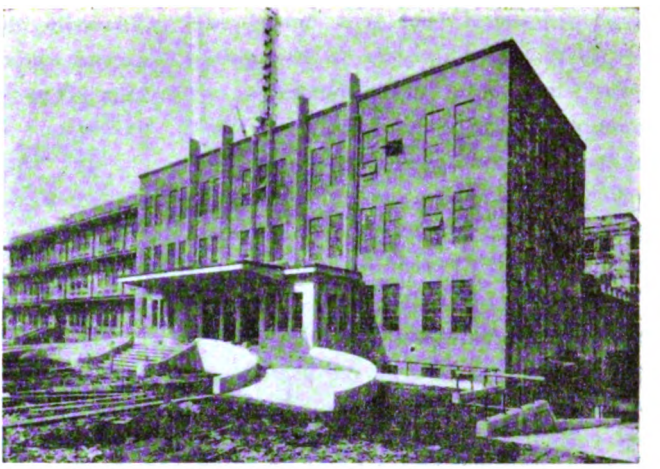
Park and Kinshi Park, all of which work is under the direct supervision of the Government.

Hamacho Park.—Nihonbashi-ku and Kyobashi-ku, which are the centre of Tokyo and are most densely populated, have hitherto had no large public gardens, but some small ones, the total area of which is only about 3,000 *tsubo* in total. The Government saw the importance of providing in the district a big park, and selected ground of 11,000 *tsubo* at Hama-cho Itchome and Nichome, Nihonbashi-ku. Already the design has been completed and the ground purchased, 70 per cent. of the houses thereon having been removed.



The new municipal hospital, at Okubo, Tokyo.

Sumida Park.—A lot of 39,000 *tsubo* was chosen for the site of this park, on both banks of the upper part of the Sumida River, extending from Makurabashi to Kototoi on the eastern bank and from Azuma-bashi to Imado on the western bank, which sections contain many places of historical interest, which the Government desires to preserve. The design has been completed. The larger part of the park ground has been acquired and efforts are being made to have the buildings thereon removed as soon as possible.

Kinshi Park.—In the industrial district of Honjo-ku and Fukagawa-ku, there have hitherto been no parks, except the Fukagawa Park of about 16,000 *tsubo* in area. The Government considered it necessary to have one of proper dimensions in Honjo-ku for the inhabitants of his congested district. At first, a part of the former site of the Military Provisions Office and adjoining ground were chosen for it, but later, the site was changed to Yanagishima-machi, Honjo-ku. The design has been completed, and the ground acquired for the main part. The work of building is progressing in this park more than in the two others.

Small Parks.—A feature of the Municipal plan for public gardens to be laid out in connection with the general program is small parks to be built for relieving the cramped life of city children. For the children, play is the best part of their life. Yet those in Tokyo have had very few public gardens, where they could play safely and undisturbed by traffic, and they have had to play in dangerous thoroughfares. The educational authorities have been much troubled as to how to provide play-grounds for these children who number 200,000, including 150,000 of school age and 50,000 infants. The completion of the

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re-adjustment of land it is feared will expose the children to more danger than before, for traffic will grow busier and more rapid than at present, while their gardens or yards will be more limited.

It is to meet this want that the small park system is planned. It is desired to provide one small park for each of the 117 primary schools in the earthquake-stricken zone, but for economic reasons that is impossible, and for the present, 52 small parks will be laid out, covering a total area of 47,000 *tsubo* at the ratio of 900 *tsubo* per park. The existing small parks, which will have to be removed on account of the street re-adjustment, will be placed close in the neighbourhood of primary schools as far as possible. Generally, the small park will be so laid out as to have trees and plants covering 30 or 40 per cent. of the ground and a play-ground coverniug 60-70 per cent., provided with facilities for sports. It will be enclosed with an iron railing, which will be sufficiently low to be easily passed over by people, so that they can seek refuge in it in case of emergency. It will give free access to the school children, with only a slight division between it and the school. These small parks will be constructed at a cost of 10,000,000 yen, of which 6,666,000 yen will be defrayed by the Municipality and 3,333,000 yen by the National Treasury. Five of them have been completed.

(*To be continued*)

## When to Laugh

Three sisters slept side by side in the same room.

One morning, the eldest said cheerfully to the other two: "Last night I had a dream about Mount Fuji, which fell down upon me. It must be a good omen, for people say that it is lucky to dream of Mount Fuji."

"I also dreampt of Mount Fuji falling down upon me," the second said.

The eldest, provoked, cried: "Don't mimic me!"

"Why," the second asked, "do you think it possible that the big mountain falling down upon you could avoid me, who lay beside you?"

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Tea picking in the Shizuoka plantations.

# The Green Tea of Japan

## (II)

IT is well known that Buddhism originated in India, and after having been introduced into China and Korea crossed the water to Japan.

In the thirteenth year of the reign of the Emperor Kimmei (552 A.D.) the reigning king of Kudara (Korea) recommended Buddhism to the Japanese Imperial Court by presenting an image of Buddha together with the Buddhist Scriptures. On the same occasion the principles of the religion were explained by a Korean monk.

Later, in the reign of the Empress Suiko (592 A.D.), Prince Umayado, afterwards Prince Regent, who assumed the Buddhist name, Shotoku Taishi, was a devoted adherent of Buddhism. He went so far as to despatch ten scholars, including Ono-no-Imoko, to China, then under the Jui Dynasty, with an Imperial Message in which was stated: "The Emperor of the Land of the Rising Sun presents this letter to the Emperor of the Land of the Setting Sun (China) with hearty good wishes for his health."

After the conclusion of a treaty with China and the opening of intercourse, her civilization was gradually introduced to Japan and in the meanwhile Buddhism thrived more and more in this country. In the reigns of the successive sovereigns many envoys and students were sent to China chiefly for the study of the doctrines of Buddhism.

It was during those days that the tea drinking habit was first transplanted to Japan by dignitaries and high priests who had studied in China. At the same time, they brought home tea seeds which were planted in this land. The tea plantations of Japan, therefore, are to be traced back to this period.

In the 1st year of Tempei (729 A.D.) the Emperor Shomu summoned one

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Japanese tea in charming surroundings.

hundred monks to his Palace to recite the Holy Scriptures of Buddhism, Maha Prajna Para-mita Sutra, and on the second day of the rites a *Gyo-cha* ceremony was held, according to ancient books such as Waji Hajimé, Chaji Dan, Sencha Kigen and Chakyo Kaisetsu.

In appears that by *Gyo-cha* was meant a ceremony to confer about tea. Tea drinking in those days was much different from that in later years when people became accustomed to the fine flavour of tea, which was, however, principally consumed as a medicine.

That tea was considered a kind of medicine can be verified by the Tea Principles written by a Chinese author, Lu Wuh, which states: "When one has thirst, agony, tired eyes, exhausted hands or feet, or uneasy joints or legs, he should take four or five sips of tea, which has effect equivalent to yoghoort or nectar." (Quoted from "Nihon Kitcha Shiryo" or "Japan Tea Drinking Data.")

In the reign of the Emperor Saga (815 A.D.), His Majesty made a trip to Karasaki, Omi Province, in April, the 6th year of Konin, and worshipped at the Boshaku Temple, where the Abbot Eichu prepared tea himself and offered it to the Emperor, who was greatly pleased with and gave a robe to the monk in token of his appreciation of the beverage.

From the accession to the Throne of the Emperor Enyu (969 A.D.) priests present at the ceremony of the scripture- reciting held annually at the Imperial Court were always served with tea.

To the tea was added extract of wild hydrangea boiled and prepared, for the purpose of sweetening the tea. The extract of Hydrangea Thunbergii leaves still is used nowadays on April 8, the birthday of Buddha. The practice of adding this extract to sweeten tea appears to have originated in those days. In later days the bitterer flavour of *Koboku*, a bark, and of ginger were added to tea.

It is also recorded that in the reign of the Emperor Goreizei (1045 A.D.) he used to serve priests and courtiers with tea each evening for three days on the occasion of the scripture reciting ceremonies at court. Sweet hydrangea, *koboku* bark and ginger extracts were added to the tea. (Quoted from "Nihon Kitcha Shiryo.")

Take two or three inch spoonfuls of tea, or more or less to one's liking, with

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boiling water, but sometimes lukewarm water is preferred in accordance with one's taste. The stronger the tea, the better is the taste. Tea is very effective in assisting digestion, when taken after meals or liquor drinking. After much liquor drinking, you had better take only a few sips of tea or drink hot mulberry infusion. Don't take any further hot water or any other kind of beverage. Unless tea or mulberry infusion is taken after indulgence in liquor you may be attacked by various kinds of diseases. Tea is so liked by all divinities that it is always used as an offering to them. In the Chapter of "Filial Duty" it is said that the dutiful child offers tea only to his parents. The motive was to prevent the parents from suffering from any sickness, and to aid them to live as long as possible. The Sang people had the following poem: "The plague alights from his carriage and pays homage to tea water, etc." In a book entitled Honzo Shai, is stated: "Tea quenches one's thirst and prevents diseases of any kind." How priceless tea is! Tea reaches even up to Heaven and also reaches down to this human world, benefiting all human kind. A medicine is effective only for a particular disease, while tea is good for any and every illness. (From "Kitcha Yojoki" or "Book of Hygiene by Tea" by Abbot Eisai.)

The preface to the above quoted book, Kitcha Yojoki, contains the following ten virtues of tea, enumerated by Abbot Myoei:

(1) Protection from all evil divinities.
(2) Filial piety.
(3) Subjugation af all evils.
(4) Drowsiness instantly cleared away.
(5) Harmony of all vital organs.
(6) No infection from diseases and keeping one always healthy and stout.
(7) Amity among friends.
(8) Keeping a right mind and high morality.
(9) Dispersal of all passions.
(10) Peaceful death.

In the 13th year of Enryaku (888 A.D.) the Emperor Kammu removed the seat of his capital from Nagaoka to Uda in Yamashiro Province and the new capital was named Heianjo which means the "City of Peace." The designs of his palace and its interior decorations were all perfection and adequacy. The Medical Bureau was established at the left side of the Horakuin Building. The bureau dealt with all matters pertaining to medicines and medicinal herb gardens, Kukoen Chinese Garden, Cow Pasture and Tea Garden. It can be seen how important a rôle was played by tea as a medicine.

In those days medical practice was not much developed, and the treatment of diseases was left to the priests who used to treat diseases by moxa burning or by incantation and prayers, as in the instance of Shogun Sanetomo of the Minamoto Clan sending for Abbot Eisai to the palace to hold an incantation and say prayers for the cure of his illness. Tea was, in such a case, used in the service of saying prayers as shown in the following example:

In the reign of the Emperor Murakami, in the 5th year of Tenryaku (951 A. D.) a plague ravaged the

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country so disastrously that many lives fell victims to it. Saint Kuya carved an eleven-faced image of Avalokitesvara, placed it on a cart and pulled it around the town himself. Tea which was offered to the Bodhisattve was given to the sufferers, a large number of whom were soon healed from the plague by taking the tea.

Tea has been a favorite drink of the Dhyana priests since time immemorial. It is presumed that the tea drinking of the Zen monks started with the publication of the Kitcha Yojoki written by Abbot Eisai.

In later years such great sages as Juko and Rikyû, masters of the tea cult, were devotees of the Dhyana doctrine. Even in present days the tea cult still remains coloured with Zenism. The cultivation of the mind owes much to Dhyana, as it is believed to enable one to be immovable and unstirred, pure and chaste, yet to be harmonious with one's environment and to fix the mind below the abdomen so firmly that even when facing decapitation it is possible to keep the mind quite still and breathe softly as a spring breeze.

In the reign of the Emperor Gotsuchimikado in the 15th year of Bummei, (1483), Shogun Yoshimasa had a tea pavilion built at Higashiyama, Kyoto. It was furnished with various kinds of furniture and utensils decorated with gold and silver, and on the sliding paper-doors, in the building, the Eight Views of Lake Biwa were painted by Yusei Kanô, one of the greatest artists of ancient Japan. Juko Murata, Master of the Tea Ceremony, and two *Dobo* or vassals, Noami and Soami, were summoned by the Shogun for whom they held grand tea ceremonies at his new pavilion. On Yoshimasa's death the place was altered to a temple called Jishoji, in compliance with the deceased's will. The temple is now better known as Ginkakuji, or Silver pavilion.

In the 17th year of Tembun (1548), during the reign of the Emperor Gonara, Shogun Yoshiteru of the Ashikaga Clan paid a visit to Hosokawa Harumoto's villa, where a tea ceremony was performed in honour of the noble guest by Ia, while a general tea ceremony was held by *Dobo* or vassals. A record relates that in March, the 4th year of Eiroku (1561), when Shogun Yoshimasa of the Ashikaga Family called upon Yoshinaga Miyoshi at the latter's villa, Hikoemon Sasô and Sakondayû Tomita, both Tea Cermony Commissioners, and three priests were summoned from Settsu Province especially for the occasion to serve tea to the Shogun.

As has been mentioned, *Dobo* means a vassal or retainer. Originally a *Dobo* was selected from among clever priests for serving cermonial tea. Later he was permitted to get married instead of keeping celibacy and his wife was summoned to the Shogunate court in the capacity of an attendant to wait on guests. Indeed this was the origin of *Chabozu* or tea priests.

"In the administration of Shogun Takauji of the Ashikaga Clan (1336-1337) Musokokushi of Tenryu Temple had a strong liking for ceremonial tea and originated the tea etiquette."—(From "Nihon Kokufu" or "Customs of Japan.")

It can be judged from the above that the tea cult was started by Juko, and Fang-sang, the mode of decoration, was

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handed down by Noami, while the tea ceremony code was finally completed by by Senno Rikyû, the restorer of the cult who succeeded to the modes left behind by Joo and Juko, by modifying and extending it more widely. In "Wakei-sei-jaku," the tea ceremony code, priests are referred to by the term, a harmonious whole, from which fact it can be surmised that priests were highly respected and particular importance was laid on their nature of quietness so as to harmonize all who were present at a service. Is there not an incidental identification between the principle of Dhyana and the tea cult?

Dhyana or Zenism is a very fit religion for the cultivation of the mind. In the "Enlightenment," a Dhyana book, it is stated: "Move not even if the wind blows from all directions. There are only Heaven and the Moon. Be like a samurai who is not aware of anybody beside him, but himself alone, while on the battlefield."

Mind is cultivated in this manner. Zenism teaches the samurai plainness and cleanliness that he may support his family even on a scanty stipend. The doctrine of Dhyana cultivates the human mind to transcend the line between life and death. This is why the samurai was always taught to be ready to commit *harakiri* whenever necessary. Zenism is a teaching for attaining Nirvana by finding one's own mind and what it is. The Zen doctrine has a close relation with the tea cult and both were observed by the samurai.

In January, the 6th year of Tensho (1578), when Nobunaga of the Oda Family received a New Year greeting from his followers at Adzuchi Castle, he gave a grand tea party for their reception. In the 15th year of the same era Toyotomi Hideyoshi also held a magnificent tea party at Matsubara, Kitano, Kyoto. Despite the strict class discrimination in those days Hideyoshi was broad-minded enough to invite all persons, whether Japanese or Chinese, rich or poor.

The Tokugawa Shogunate succeeded to the supremacy and prosperity of the Oda and Toyotomi Families. In the Tokugawa administration the tea cult grew in favour among the samurai. It was considered a great shame for a person in a high position to be ignorant of how to prepare tea ceremonially. The tea ceremony was regarded as one of the most cordial entertainments given a guest.

Thus the custom of preparing ceremonial tea spread even to the proletarian class, while the ordinary habit of tea drinking became prevalent. Today there is hardly a person in Japan who does not take tea first thing every morning, and every visitor is served with a cup of tea.

Besides, the tea drinking habit of this country is closely associated with the national ancestor-worship.

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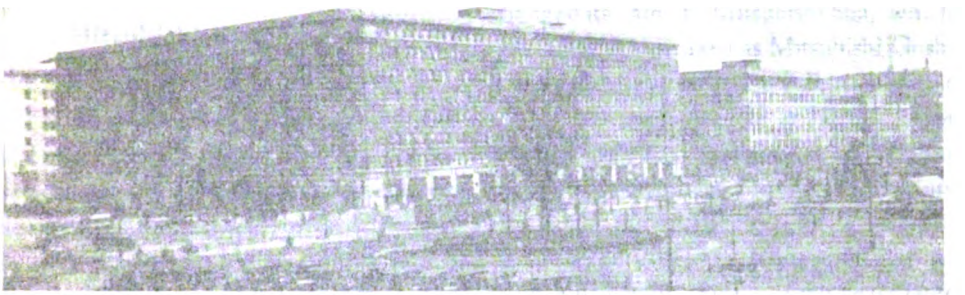

Left : The headquarters of Mitsubishi, Tokyo.
Right : Marunouchi Building ("Naka-dori", Mitsubishi's great office building, reputed the greatest in the Orient.

# The Mitsubishi Kingdom

THE word "Mitsubishi" so widely known today not only in Japan but all over the world is the firm name of all the corporations operated by the multi-millionaire Iwasaki Family in keen rivalry with the Mitsui Family in all directions of business activities. The Mitsubishi or Iwasaki Family and the Mitsui Family are, indeed, the two giants of enterprise in Japan

The business concerns of the Mitsubishi interests are: the Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha, the "fountain-head" of all the Mitsubishi enterprises; Mitsubishi Nosen Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd.); Mitsubishi Seitetsu Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Iron & steel Co., Ltd.); Mitsubishi Soko Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Warehousing Co., Ltd.); Mitsubishi Shoji Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Trading Co., Ltd.), Mitsubishi Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Mining Co., Ltd.); Mitsubishi Kanjo Kaisa Hoken Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Marine & Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.); the Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd.; Mitsubishi Nainenki Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Internal Combustion Engineering Co., Ltd.); Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha (Mitsubishi Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd.) Another firm of the Mitsubishi interests is the Mitsubishi Trust Co., Ltd., which has recently started business.

The Iwasaki Family operates in Japan and in various foreign markets. The present huge enterprises of the family originated with the late Yataro Iwasaki of the Tosa Clan, a pioneer business man of modern Japan. The enterprises of the family are now carried on by Baron Koyata Iwasaki and Baron Hisaya Iwasaki, as joint undertakings. They succeeded to the business of the late Yataro Iwasaki, who established a steamship company named Yubin Kisen Mitsubishi Kaisha or Mitsubishi Mail Steamship Company, about the beginning of the Meiji Era, and engaged in the marine transportation, business, in which he was a pioneer in

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Left: The headquarters of Mitsubishi, Tokyo.
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Japan. This was the seed from which have grown the various enterprises of today.

### Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha (The Mitsubishi Company)

The Mitsubishi Company was founded in 1893, being a purely family concern tracing its origin back to the middle of the 19th century, when, toward the end of the Tokugawa régime, Lord Yodo Yamanouchi of the Tosa Clan established a "clan company" in Osaka for the transportation of merchandise.

On the dissolution of the firm in October 1870, Mr. Yataro Iwasaki took over its affairs and made himself its sole proprietor. Gradually new fields of enterprise were developed besides transportation, including manufacturing industry and mining, and later the firm was renamed Yubin Kisen Mitsubishi Kaisha, which succeeded in founding a Japanese mercantile marine in competition with foreign steamship companies. In 1880 the exchange business was taken up by the company. On Mr. Yataro Iwasaki's death, however, in February, 1885, Mr. Yanosuke Iwasaki, later created Baron, his younger brother, succeeded him and in September merged with the Kyodo Unyu Kaisha (Union Transport Company), the oniy competitor in marine transportation in those days. This amalgamated concern was the forerunner of the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

With the extension of its business in many other directions, such as mining, shipbuilding and banking, the company changed its name to Mitsubishi Sha, which was again reorganized as Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha in July, 1893, on the enactment of the Commercial Code in Japan. The newly reformde company made Baron Hisaya Iwasaki, the founder's heir, its President, while Baron Koyata Iwasaki assumed the Vice-Presidency on his return from Europe in 1906. Two years later occurred the death of Baron Yanosuke Iwasaki, to whom is largely due the present prosperity of the Mitsubishi business.

Owing to its rapid growth, the company was obliged in 1917 to reorganize its constitution and detach its shipbuilding and iron-manufacture from the main firm, as independent concerns: the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding Engineering Company and the Mitsubishi Iron & Steel Company. Later on other important branches of the Goshi Kaisha have

In the heart of the Marunouchi district. In the left foreground is Mitsubishi Building No. 21 the entire fourth floor of which is occupied by the American Trading Co.

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In the background of the [illegible] In the left foreground is Shin-Aoyama Building No. 2; the entrance to the Tokyo Metropolitan Police Board
American Trading Co.

The famous Mitsubishi Shipyards, at Nagasaki.

been made independent joint-stock concerns.

With an authorized capital of Yen 120,000,000 and a reserve fund of more than Yen 10,000,000, the Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha is now chiefly devoted to the superintendence of its auxiliary concerns, the investigation of new enterprises, and the control of estates and buildings.

The office is situated at No. 13, Higashidori I-bancho, Yaesu-cho I-chome, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo, facing the Tokyo Central Station. The present partners are Baron Koyata Iwasaki and Baron Hisaya Iwasaki.

The estates owned by the Company are scattered in Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, and Otaru, covering a total area of 4,530,508 square feet. The most important estate of the Company is in Marunouchi, Tokyo, immediately in front of the Imperial Palace grounds. The famous Marunouchi Building, popularly known as "Ichiban-Biru", is owned by the company; Mitsubishi Building No. 28, an up-to-date six-storeyed structure, will be completed very soon; while the construction of the Yaesu Building, another new eight-storeyed building, will be completed by the end of this year, in Marunouchi.

### Mitsubishi Zosen Kabushiki Kaisha

(The Mitsubishi Shipbuilding & Engineering Co., Ltd.)

The origin of the Company which engages in shipbuilding and engineering, and the design, construction, and repair of all classes of warships, steamers, oil-tankers, turbines, Diesel engines, boilers, pumps, hydraulic plants, auxiliary engines, girders and frame structures, heavy steel castings and forgings, electrical machinery, torpedoes and other implements of war, dates as far back as the Ansei Era, about 72 years ago, when an insignificant shipyard was founded at Nagasaki by the Tokugawa Shogunate.

The shipyard was handed over to the Imperial Government, on the Restoration in 1871, was leased by it to the Mitsubishi in 1884, and a few years later the concern came under the sole management of the Mitsubishi Firm. Under the new management the shipyard soon had marvelous development; its Kobe plant was installed and commenced operations in August 1905; in December 1914 the Hiroshima Works were added. Thus the Mitsubishi Family has succeeded in taking the lead in shipbuilding and engineering in the Far East.

The head office is in Marunouchi, Tokyo, controlling the works and the

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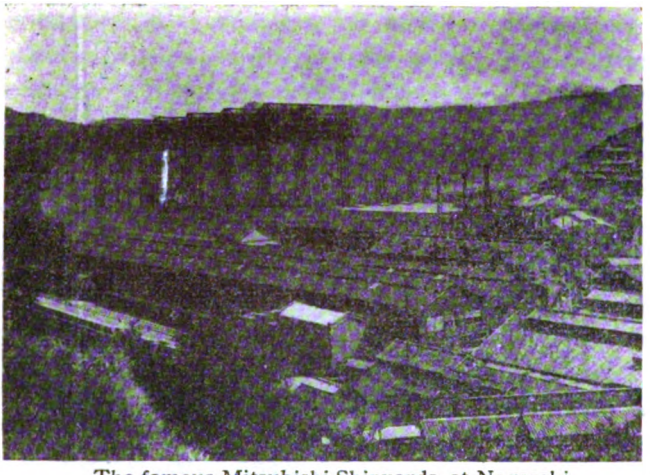

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Research Laboratory. The company's works are in Nagasaki, Kobe, Akunoura, Tategami, and Hikoshima. The authorized capital is Yen 50,000,000. Its armament works at Nagasaki, opened in 1917, is also on a gigantic scale.

### Mitsubishi Seitetsu Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Mitsubishi Iron & Steel Co., Ltd.)

From a national standpoint and in view of the ever increasing necessity of meeting the growing demand for shipbuilding and other engineering materials, the Mitsubishi Company has long paid special attention to the manufacture of iron and steel. Since it bought over the Kenjiho iron mine, Korea, in 1911, it has gradually absorbed the neighbouring mines. In 1913, when Taiho-men colliery, Hei-an-Nando, and Kenjiho limestone mines came into the company's possession, a large enterprise was projected for iron production at Kenjiho, and the Preparatory Iron Foundry was opened for establishing the iron works.

On the satisfactory completion of these preparations, in October 1917, the present concern was founded, with the head office in Marunouchi, Tokyo, and a capital of Yen 25,000,000, all the aforesaid business and plant being transferred to this new concern. The plant is divided into the Blast Furnace Department, By-Product Coke Oven Department, Open Hearth Department, Blooming Mill, Structural Mill, Plate Mill, and Brick Department.

The Taiho-men Colliery, the Kenjiho, Kasei-men, Nido-men, Sainei-men, Ginzan-men, Furin-men, and Taikwan-men Ore Mines are in the company's possession.

### Mitsubishi Soko Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Mitsubishi Warehousing Co., Ltd.)

It was in 1887 that the Tokyo Warehousing Company was founded in Tokyo by the late Baron K. Kawada and Mr. H. Shoda with the assistance of Mitsubishi, and 13 years later the Mitsubishi Company purchased it. In 1918 the firm name was altered to the Mitsubishi Soko Kabushiki Kaisha, as it is now called, the capital being increased to Yen 10,000 000.

The head office is situated at No. 1, Yaesu-cho 1-chome, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo, with branches at Tokyo, Osaka, Kobe, Yokohama and Moji. At Kobe where the imports and exports surpass in quantity and value those of any other port of Japan, the equipment is highly efficient and far in advance of other warehouses in Japan.

At this port, the steel piers and wharfs owned by the company can accommodate five steamers of about 10,000 tons each at a time. Electric cranes for loading and discharging have been installed; large sheds and warehouses have been constructed close by; steamboats and lighters are ready and railways interweave among the buildings. Every facility is provided for transportation.

It is to be added that the company has considerable interest in both the Kyodo Unyu Kabushiki Kaisha (Union Express Co., Ltd.) at Yokohama, and the Ryoka Soko Kabushiki Kaisha (Ryoka Warehousing Co., Ltd.) at Shanghai.

### Mitsubishi Shoji Kabushiki Kaisha
(The Mitsubishi Trading Co., Ltd.)

In the days of the Yubin Kisen Mitsubishi Kaisha the Mitsubishi Family for the first time embarked in the coal trade,

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installing a branch office at Nagasaki in 1881. Later, in 1886, when the company was called Mitsubishi Sha, it started to deal in copper and other minerals produced in the mines belonging to the company.

After the reorganization of the Mitsubishi Sha into the Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha, the Trading Department was established in the new firm in 1889. The Department successfully carried on its coal, metal and shipping trades until October 1917, when the company decided on widening its fields of importation and exportation and also to engage in transactions in general merchandise.

The increasing activities caused the Department to be registered as a separate concern, and the present company was organized in April, 1918, with a capital of Yen 15,000,000, for transactions in commodities and merchandise, wholesale, transportation, general agency, and brokerage, manufacturing and remanufacturing.

The principal commodities and merchandise dealt in by the firm are coal and coke, petroleum and all kinds of oil, iron, steel and other metals, cereals, machinery and machine tools, sugar, canned provisions, wool and woollen yarn, raw silk, *habutae* and other silk goods, timber, cement, paper, window glass, rubber, etc. The head office is in Marunouchi, Tokyo, while branches and agencies are found in many important cities and ports of the Far East, Australia, Europe and America.

### Mitsubishi Kogyo Kabushiki Kaisha
**(The Mitsubishi Mining Co., Ltd.)**

The first time the Mitsubishi became connected with the mining industry was 1871, a year after the establishment of the Tsukumo Shokai by the late Mr. Yataro Iwasaki, the founder of the Mitsubishi Company, who took over the Otokawa Colliery in Kii Province in the same year. Subsequently many mines and collieries in Kyushu, Hokkaido, and other districts throughout Japan were purchased by the Mitsubishi, and all these mines and collieries were placed under the control of the Metal Mining Department and the Coal Mining Derartment in the main house of the Mitsubishi. In April, 1918, the present mining company was founded.

The new company started operations in May, 1918, with a capital of Yen 50,000,000, which was increased to Yen 100,000,000 in July, 1920. The company is an important producer of gold, silver, copper, tin, lead, tungsten ore, coal, coke, etc. possessing 16 metal mines, 12 collieries, several smelting works, one refinery, one coke works and one laboratory.

The leading mines and collieries are found in the following districts: Akebono, Arakawa, Ikuno, Makimine, Osaruzawa, Sado, Takara, Yoshioka (mines); Ashibetsu, Bibai, Hojo, Kamiyamada, Kanada, Namazuda, Ochi, Yoshinotani, Oyubari, Shinnyu, Takashima (collieries).

### Mitsubishi Kaijo Kasai Hoken Kabushiki Kaisha
**(The Mitsubishi Marine & Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.)**

The forerunner of the present firm was the Self-Insurance Department of the Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha, and the history of that department tells eloquently the success and prosperity of the Company in this line of business for a period of nearly

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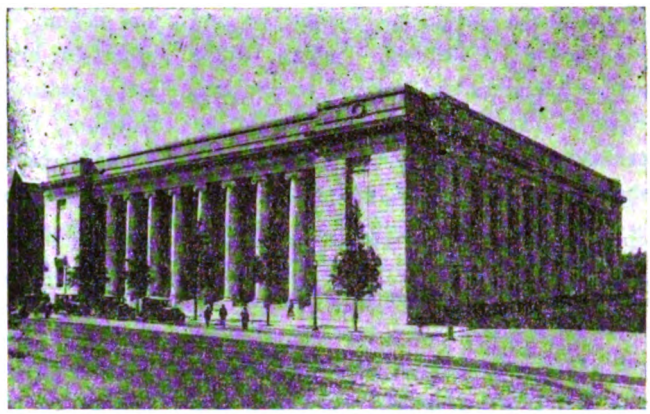
one decade. During the World War, however, the facilities of the Department were found inadequate to cope with the expansion of the Mitsubishi main firm, while the demand for reliable insurance corporations was keenly felt.



The Mitsubishi Bank, Tokyo.

Under these circumstances, the Mitsubishi Marine and Fire Insurance Company came into existence in April, 1919, and commenced business in June, the same year. The company covers marine, fire, transport and automobile risks and re-insurance Notwithstanding the considerable losses sustained through the earthquake disaster of 1923, the company was able to increase its reserves by Yen 678,628,90. The head office of the company is in Marunouchi, Tokyo, with branch offices in Osaka and Kobe. The company has 417 agents of which 85 are abroad including practically all the principal ports and cities in the world. The company's general agents for Europe are Henry Head & Co., Ltd., London, and its General Claims Agents for the United States and Canada are Appleton & Cox, Inc., New York.

**The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd.**

The Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd., originated in the establishment of the Banking Department of the Mitsubishi Goshi Kaisha in 1895, with the Tokyo Head Office, Fukagawa Branch (Tokyo), and Tosabori and Nakanoshima Branches (Osaka). The Tosabori Branch Office has since been merged in the Nakanoshima Branch. If the genesis of its banking business is sought, it is to be traced back to the Mitsubishi Exchange Store, which was established in 1880, or to the purchase af the 119th Bank which took place in 1885. This bank continued its business in the same name until 1898, when the term of its business licence expired and the bank was amalgamated with the Banking Department of the Mitsubishi Company.

In 1919 the Mitsubishi Bank, Ltd., was formed, and all the business of the Banking Department was placed under the management of this new bank.

The Bank has a capital of Yen 50,-000,000 and the deposits amount to 300,-000,000. It has branches throughout the country and in Shanghai, London and New York, and since 1912 has been acting as agent for the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

The bank is one of the greatest in Japan, and its reliability and credit are recognized throughout the world.

**Mitsubishi Nainenki Kabushiki Kaisha**

**(The Mitsubishi Internal Combustion Engineering Co., Ltd.)**

The present company had its origin in the Kobe Internal Combustion Engine

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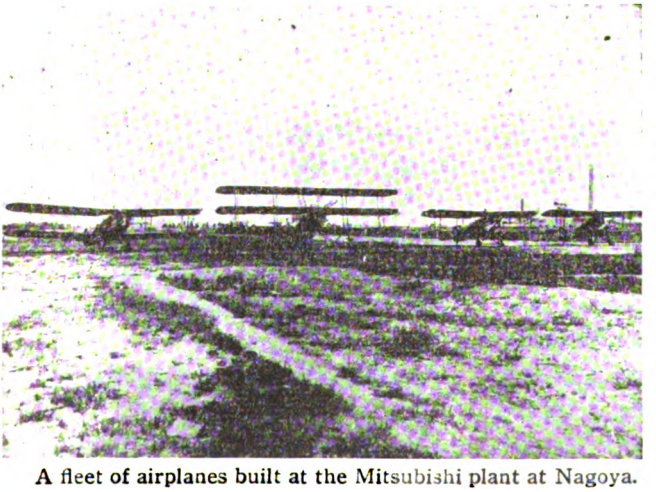
Works of the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding and Engineering Company, which made heavy oil engines and internal combustion engines. In order to cope with the increasing demands for these products in which it has specialized, and to be ready for the enormous possibilities of that farreaching problem of the future, aerial transport, the management decided to convert the works into a separate concern of limited liability, and, consequently, in May, 1921, the present corporation was established with a capital of Yen 5,000,000.

In the following year extensive works were erected in Nagoya for the manufacture of aeroplanes, aero-engines and motorcars. The company manufactures at present Vickers' Diesel engines, aeroplanes, aero-engines and motor-cars, being licensees of the famous "Hispano-Suiza" aero-engine, the "Lamblin" radiator, and the "Hanriot" H.D.-14-type aeroplanes.

The head office is located at No. 1, Yaesu-cho 1-chome, Kojimachi-ku, Tokyo. The works are located in Kobe and Nagoya, and are equipped with up-to-date and efficient machinery, especially that for the construction of aero-engines and aircraft. The company removed its motor-car branch from Nagoya to Tokyo, and established works and repair depot at Shibaura, Tokyo, where the construction of motor-cars, specially designed to meet the requirements of this country, is being undertaken.



A fleet of airplanes built at the Mitsubishi plant at Nagoya.

## Mitsubishi Denki Kabushiki Kaisha

**(The Mitsubishi Electrical Engineering Co., Ltd.)**

In 1905, owing to the growth of the shipbuilding industry of the Mitsubishi Shipbuilding and Engineering Co., Ltd., and the consequent demand for electrical machinery for ships constructed in its yards and for the mines and collieries in the Mitiubishi Company's possession, electrical engineering work on a larger scale was found indispensable, and the result was the foundation of the Mitsubishi Electrical Engineering Company with a capital of Yen 15,000,000, in February, 1921, enlarging the the Electrical Department of both the Nagasaki and Kobe Shipyards.

Thereafter the company developed rapidly. Beside the Kobe and Nagasaki works of the company, which are in operation, new workshops have been completed at Nagoya. The Mitsubishi Electrical Engineering Company occupies a foremost position in the electrical industry of Japan.

Recently a working arrangement with the well-known American Westinghouse Company was concluded, by virtue of which the valuable designs and manufacturing knowledge of that great corporation will be available to the Mitsubishi Electrical Engineering Company, and this naturally will further strengthen its position greatly.

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# Japan's Business Abroad

IN 1926, the foreign trade of Japan amounted in value to 4,422,000,000 yen, made up of 2,044,000,000 yen of exports and 2,377,000,000 yen of imports. This amount nearly quadruples the figure existing 15 years ago, and may be regarded as indicating the expansion of Japan's eccnomic scale.

Exports.—To see how the exports from Japan were distributed among the continents, the following table is of interest:—

| Continent. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asia | 903,415,603 | 1,000,560,449 | 757,060,937 |
| Europe | 129,420,603 | 152,602,160 | 175,050,735 |
| North America | 850,102,576 | 1,032,693,144 | 764,826,001 |
| South ,, | 16,831,237 | 17,705,032 | 18,056,449 |
| Africa | 43,154,851 | 42,951,279 | 41,201,962 |
| Other lands | 61,802,834 | 59,077,743 | 50,838,753 |
| Total | 2,044,729,890 | 2,305,589,807 | 1,807,034,837 |

Imports.—The following table give the imports into Japan in the past three years from the various continents:—

| Continent. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| Asia | 1,017,581,267 | 1,213,817,265 | 998,602,588 |
| Europe | 416,303,989 | 447,770,672 | 581,091,478 |
| North America | 755,498,045 | 704,973,170 | 712,789,689 |
| South America | 11,943,713 | 8,412,000 | 8,535,537 |
| Africa | 41,286,279 | 41,477,283 | 22,072,310 |
| Other lands | 132,172,374 | 154,141,740 | 127,764,860 |
| Temporary Warehouses | 1,715,162 | 1,227,538 | 1,660,730 |
| Unknown | 983,664 | 838,195 | 885,064 |
| Total | 2,377,484,493 | 2,572,657,863 | 2,453,402,256 |

From the above figures, it is plain that Japan has her greatest trade relations with the Oriental and South Sea countries and North America, which lie in geographical proximity to her, and then with Europe.

Trade with Asia.—Japan's trade with Asia, including Oriental and South Sea countries, amounted in value to 903,000,000 yen in exports and to 1,017,000,000 yen in imports, the latter of which is in excess of the former by 114,000,000 yen. These exports and imports may be given according to countries as follow:—

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Exports to Asia:

| Country. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| | *Yen* | *Yen* | *Yen* |
| China | 421,861,235 | 468,438,956 | 348,398,787 |
| Kwantung Province | 99,606,772 | 101,647,368 | 72,001,146 |
| Hongkong | 52,973,011 | 73,629,010 | 79,010,627 |
| British-India | 155,951,539 | 173,413,207 | 135,373,129 |
| Straits Settlements | 41,497,276 | 44,904,882 | 22,742,239 |
| Dutch-Indies | 74,754,266 | 85,556,831 | 59,331,401 |
| French Indo-China | 6,206,645 | 4,027,741 | 2,438,316 |
| Asiatic-Russia | 5,299,972 | 3,112,714 | 3,562,933 |
| Phillipines | 27,821,068 | 29,305,856 | 23,507,635 |
| Siam | 9,270,805 | 7,820,213 | 4,181,213 |
| Other Countries | 8,173,202 | 8,703,671 | 5,913,521 |
| Total | 903,415,790 | 1,000,560,449 | 757,060,937 |

Imports from Asia:

| Country. | 1826. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| China | 239,410,462 | 214,657,519 | 237,544,093 |
| Kwantung Province | 157,033,706 | 176,596,197 | 175,744,318 |
| Hongkong | 1,426,286 | 475,903 | 1,099,252 |
| British-India | 391,136,194 | 573,563,812 | 387,791,935 |
| Straits Settlements | 39,872,320 | 37,004,343 | 31,339,881 |
| Dutch-Indies | 103,077,496 | 130,372,892 | 92,400,929 |
| French Indo-China | 24,519,627 | 48,719.752 | 17,990,122 |
| Asiatic-Russia | 23,883,964 | 14,679,344 | 15,184,909 |
| Phillipines | 18,714,494 | 16,700,287 | 17,841,969 |
| Siam | 14,358,017 | 23,734,976 | 18,481,572 |
| Other Countries | 4,148,691 | 4,313,237 | 3,183,608 |
| Total | 1,017,581,267 | 1,213,817,265 | 998,605,588 |

In Japan's export trade with Asia, China comes first in value and in Japan's import trade, India stands foremost. With Kwantung Province, in close proximity, trade is very large, the exports being always about 100,000,000 yen and the imports into Japan about 160,000,000 or 170,000,000 yen, including chiefly soja beans and oil cake. With the South Sea region, or with the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, the Dutch-Indies and French Indo-China, Japan export cotton yarns, cotton fabrics and sundries and import rice, rubber, sugar, iron ore, pig iron, and other raw materials and food stuffs. But the amount involved is not so important. This much smaller volume of trade with these places than that with China and British-India leaves much room for business yet to be done if proper efforts are made. In fact, the cultivation of the market in these places, the increased importation of their raw materials and the development of their resources should be discussed in official and non-official quarters as an important trade policy.

Trade with North America.—With North America, Japan's export and import trade stands as under:—

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Exports to North America:

| Country. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| United States | 860,880,579 | 1,006,252,759 | 744,925,600 |
| Canada | 24,753,778 | 20,838,296 | 15,450,706 |
| Mexico | 1,145,869 | 1,371,057 | 874,273 |
| Cuba | 712,493 | 1,081,410 | 675,672 |
| Other Countries | 2,609,857 | 3,149,622 | 2,899,750 |
| Total | 890,102,576 | 1,032,693,144 | 764,826,001 |

Imports from North America:

| Country. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| United States | 680,185,761 | 664,992,279 | 670,993,130 |
| Canada | 63,929,190 | 37,132,413 | 40,024,779 |
| Mexico | 139,610 | 80,984 | 30,424 |
| Cuba | 10,646,131 | 2,638,081 | 22 |
| Other Countries | 597,353 | 129,413 | 1,741,334 |
| Total | 755,498,045 | 704,973,170 | 712,789,689 |

Of the total amount of exports to North America in 1926 of 890,000,000 yen, the United States took 860,000,000 yen, and trade with Canada, Mexico, Cuba and other countries does not constitute any important question. With North America, raw silk and raw cotton form the main parts in the export and import trade respectively, raw silk exported to America in 1926 amounting to 709,000,000 yen, being 80 per cent. of the total export trade of 890,000,000 yen with North America.

In the same year, Japan took 317,000,000 yen worth of American raw cotton, being 46 per cent. of the total import trade of 680,000,000 yen with that country. Other important American goods are lumber, machinery, iron, steel, automobiles, etc. In 1926, lumber amounted to 84,000,000 yen, an increase of 24,000,000 yen over 1925, although decreasing 20,000,000 yen from the figure for 1924, soon after the earthquake. So much American lumber being imported has called forth demands to raise the import duty on lumber, among the Japanese saw mill owners. This is a noteworthy trade question, although it is another matter whether it is advisable or not. Regarding iron, steel and machinery, the first mentioned two came in to the value of 63,000,000 yen in 1924, but in 1926, the amount was cut by half. Machinery also lost about 50 per cent. in the meantime. The fact partly reflects the industrial inactivity of Japan.

Trade with South America, Africa and Australia.—With South America, Japan's trade relations are not yet so extensive, the yearly volume being only 17,000,000 or 18,000,000 yen in exports and 10,000,000 yen in imports, although a market may be still cultivated there for Japanese produce. With Africa, Japan traded more than 80,000,000 yen in equal proportions of exports and imports in 1926. Egypt is the best customer in Africa for cotton fabrics, silk fabrics and sundries, and in imports,

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Egyptian raw cotton comes first. Africa must be cultivated as a market for Japanese produce, too. With Australasia, Japan imported 132,000,000 yen and exported 61,000,000 yen in 1926, of which the trade with Australia took the main part, New Zealand and Hawaii claiming unimportant portions. In the same year, the imports from Australia amounted to 128,000,000 yen, of which 74,000,000 yen was wool, 85 per cent. of the goods taken by Japan. Of the exports, silk goods stand first with 31,000,000 yen.

**Trade with Europe.**—Europe comes third in the list of continents with which Japan is largely connected commercially, preceded by Asia and North America in the order named. In 1926, Japan exported to it 129,000,000 yen and imported from it 416,000,000 yen, which outbalances the exports by 287,000,000 yen, due to the large amount of industrial products bought from its older industrial countries. According to country, the exports and imports with the continent were as follow:—

Exports to Europe:

| Country. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| England | 59,493,735 | 59,716,478 | 61.044,019 |
| France | 42,411,882 | 58,854,954 | 85,789,951 |
| Germany | 8,131,002 | 11,844,213 | 8,564,196 |
| Belgium | 1,168,550 | 1,828,364 | 3,415,552 |
| Italy | 5,251,917 | 7,201,835 | 6,229,136 |
| Switzerland | 495,541 | 365,089 | 161,298 |
| Austria | 352,841 | 447,386 | 448,021 |
| Czecho-Slovakia | 5,498 | 5,119 | 1,820 |
| Holland | 2,496,198 | 2,617,472 | 2,898,856 |
| Sweden | 468,492 | 374,336 | 323,325 |
| Norway | 28,807 | 20,251 | 18,776 |
| Russia | 4,646 | 528,194 | 642 |
| Poland | 2,501,982 | 1,894,882 | 1,564 |
| Spain | 950,412 | 910,382 | 797,735 |
| Denmark | 608,082 | 804,692 | 350,515 |
| Turkey | 4,234,571 | 3,831,003 | 4,371,117 |
| Portugal | 8,264 | 12,797 | 9,267 |
| Other Countries | 808,183 | 344,703 | 584,945 |
| Total | 129,420,603 | 152,602,160 | 175,050,735 |

Imports from Europe:

| Country. | 1926. | 1925. | 1924. |
|---|---|---|---|
| England | 170,274,500 | 227,292,002 | 312,751,429 |
| France | 24,545,101 | 33,377,407 | 32,771,209 |
| Germany | 145,220,980 | 123,819,262 | 144,643,248 |
| Belgium | 14,240,880 | 11,939,702 | 29.384,659 |
| Italy | 6,746,794 | 3,387,401 | 4,420,935 |
| Switzerland | 21,819,126 | 20,775,494 | 23,017,656 |
| Austria | 3,285,723 | 2,885,694 | 1,150,911 |
| Czecho.Slovakia | 560,846 | 259,539 | 212,582 |
| Holland | 4,726,487 | 5,165,917 | 7,911,435 |

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| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Sweden | 13,946,606 | 12,067,137 | 16,370,617 |
| Norway | 5,263,469 | 3,353,798 | 3,722,310 |
| Russia | 793,635 | 291,414 | 481,256 |
| Poland | 2,284,596 | 357,186 | 344,334 |
| Spain | 1,049,345 | 890,900 | 1,768,837 |
| Denmark | 440,717 | 599,638 | 1,081,430 |
| Turkey | 483,220 | 882,544 | 486,528 |
| Portugal | 129,058 | 267,497 | 421,600 |
| Other Countries | 492,906 | 158,140 | 150,466 |
| Total | 416,303,989 | 447,770,672 | 581,091,478 |

England is intimately related commercially as well as diplomatically with Japan, and holds the foremost position among the European countries tabulated. In exports, France stands second, and in imports, Germany follows very closely England. The important position of France in exports is chiefly on account of raw silk and silk fabrics purchased from Japan, and the imports from England being thrice as mnch as exports from Japan is owing to Japan relying necessarily upon the supply of woollen goods, iron, steel and machinery from England. With Germany, the imports stand at 145,000,000 yen as against only 8,000,000 yen of exports, which fact tells the existing condition of the industry of Japan necessitating so greatly a German supply of various scientific products. With other countries, Japan's commercial relations are not so important. From the past three years' results, it may be seen that both the import and export trade with Europe tended to fall off, which is noteworthy, although it may be but a temporary phenomenon.

Reviewing Japan's trade with the world, it may be said that her international commerce is supported mainly by the North American and Asiatic trade, headed by the United States and China respectively, whose economic conditions naturally have much to do with the prosperity or adversity of Japan's trade in general, especially in the export line, the condition of which is nearly decided by the Chinese political situation and American economic conditions.

To more nearly equalize her foreign trade it is necessary for Japan to cultivate markets for her produce in the South Sea Islands, South America and South Africa and Russia.

The tariff conditions prevailing since the war have created dullness since last year, and Japan's liberalism is becoming influential. Its principle is to carry on international trade freely without state aid or constraint, removing the tariff wall and abolishing unnatural import limitations. Japan is standing at the same starting point as other Powers, with bare hands as she has lost her former weapon of the fall in the foreign exchanges. She feels the urgent necessity to seek means to develop her international trade at the new turning point as are other Powers.

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# The Story of Japanese Food

## (I)

RICE, barley, *awa* (millet), *hiye* (barn yard grass), soja beans, small beans, etc. were used as food by the Japanese in remote antiquity as they are at present. The *Nihon-Shoki* and other of the oldest books in Japan state that the Imperial ancestral goddess, Amateratsu-omikami, who obtained seed of these cereals from Ukemochi-no-kami, spoke of them as vitally important for human beings to live on. Since then, these cereals, or *gokoku* (five cereals) have formed staple articles of good in Japan. Rice was of primary importance among them, and its seed was taken with him by the Sun-Goddess's grand son on his descent at her command. The seed suited the soil very well and the crop was abundant. This was the source of the name of *Mizuho-no-kuni* (the land blessed with rice) by which the country was called since then.

In old times, unhulled rice was commonly eaten by heating or boiling, although he noble families on rare occasions took it after cleaning. Rice was not eaten but by upper class people, as for the middle and low class people, it was too costly and they usually took such cheaper cereals as barley, *awa* and *hiye*, instead. Then they ate only two meals a day.

As side dishes, they had vegetables, meats or fruit. These vegetables were mostly *nazuna* (shepherd's purse), *ninjin* (carrot), etc., which were called *sai*, radish, garlic, etc., which were called *karana*, and *wakame*, *konbu*, and other seaweeds. There were some other kinds of vegetables eaten.

As meats, they took beef, horse-flesh, brawn, deer-flesh, other animal flesh, chicken, fish and sh. ll-fish. They did not dare to slaughter oxen and horses for eating, as these animals rendered useful service to them, helping them in farming.

They ate mostly wild bear, deer and other wild animal flesh, which was called *keno-aramono*, as distinguished from bird-flesh, which was called *kenonikomono*.

The *Kojiki* (one of the oldest books in Japan) describes the shooting of a pheasant with *amano-kaku-ya* (an arrow) by Amano-wakahiko (a prince), the Emperor Jimmu's ode on bird hunting and the hawking of a bird by the Emperor Suijin. The *Nihon-Shoki*, another ancient book, notes that in September in the forty-third year of the Emperor Nintoku, a strange bird was captured and it was presented to the Emperor and that in the reign of the Emperor Bitatsu, a hunter's arrow shot a skylark. From these notes, it is evident that bird-flesh was eaten then. Fish were most probably another staple article of diet then, when big fish were called *hata-no-hiromono* and small fish *hata-no-samono*.

There were then such fruit trees as peaches, chestnuts, grape-vines and walnuts, which fruits they ate. These trees were perhaps not cultivated, but grew wild. Peaches seem to have been most valued as efficacious for some diseases. This is written in the *Kojiki*.

As a drink, there was *sake*. Then it was called *kushi* or *ki*. It was quite like

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*doburoku* (unrefined sake) of to-day. A tradition says that it was first made by the gods Onamuchi-no-mikoto and Sukunahiko-no-Mikoto. It was made of rice or fruit, which was chewed and fermented. This brewing method is followed even to-day by Loochoo men. This drink was called *kuro-ki* (black sake) for common quality and *shiro-ki* (white sake) for fine quality. It was sometimes brewed several times for enriching it, and then it was called *yashiori-no-ki*. The *Kojiki* describes the killing of a huge serpent by Susano-no-mikoto on the upper reaches of the Hi River in the Province of Izumo by intoxicating it with rich sake.

In no age since the Emperor Jimmu were there no records of sake appearing in these books. *Ame* (wheat-gluten) appears to have begun to be made about this age, although it is unknown whether it was of the same kind as at present.

In this age, earthen ware and leaves stitched together were used as table-ware. Cooks of the Imperial cuisine were called *kashiwade*. Two chopsticks were used in taking meals as at present. They were made mostly of bamboo splits. Food was boiled or broiled in this early age, and an igniter was invented in an earlier period, when Okitsuhiko-no-kami and Okitsuhime-no-kami are said to have invented it. Ignition was by the friction of two wooden pieces, chiefly of *hinoki* (Japanese cypress). This practice is still observed by Shinto priests in making fire before the altars in the Ise, Izumo and some other shrines.

In a later age, the successive emperors encouraged industry, and farming made marked progress. Ditches were dug for irrigation and dikes were built for the prevention of floods. The Emperors Sujin and Suinin were particularly concerned about the welfare of the people and encouraged farming among them for which they caused over 800 ditches to be dug in the country. Plenty of cereals was produced, and storehouses were built for storing them. In this age as in the preceeding age, rice was the important staple food of the nation. It was prepared by broiling or by drying boiled rice. It was unhulled as before, but some people in the upper classes seem to have eaten cleaned rice. Besides, *awa*, *hiye*, barley and beans formed other staple articles of food in this age as in the preceding age. These meals were taken two times a day, morning and evening. The culinary art must have been much advanced then, but there are no available records about it.

As side dishes, there were such vegetables as greens, onions, parsley, carrots, bamboo-shoots, mushrooms, etc., such fish as sea-breams, whales, carp, sweet-fish, clams, crabs, etc., such birds as ducks, snipe, pheasants, etc. and such meats as brawn, deer-flesh, etc., all of which the people liked to eat. There were no particularly different kinds of fruits eaten then from what were taken in the preceding age, though one novelty was *tachibana* (a kind of orange) imported from Korea.

Ice began to be used in this age. In the reign of the Emperor Nintoku, ice was stored in the winter in the ground, at a depth of about 10 feet. Ice was piled in it and thick layers of reed-grass, etc. were placed between the piles. It was taken out and used in summer.

In the Nara Era, the people lived on rice as before. Most people ate boiled rice.

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Dried boiled rice was sometimes eaten, as it was very convenient for taking on travels, for which it became indispensable. There was glutinous rice then in addition to non-glutinous rice. It was boiled and dried, too, and was made into *mochi* (rice-cake). The shortage of rice was made up by barley and wheat. The cultivation of *awa* seems to have been much encouraged, too. Soy and vinegar, besides salt, were used as seasonings. Soy was called then *hishio*, which was something like *miso*, being different from *shoyu* (soy) produced and popularly used in later generations and to-day. Buckwheat, an important food to-day, began to be eaten in this age.

Sea-weed such as *wakame* and *konbu* and such land products as onions, horseradish, arrowroot, garlic, etc., were eaten.

The eating of meats and flesh had been greatly diminished by this time as the result of slaughter and hunting having been prohibited by Buddhism, which had been introduced and flourished. Shell-fish, sea weed, etc., appear to have been much eaten by the people. Besides, the ate sea-bream, tunny and some other fish.

As to fruit, there were pear, jujubes, chestnuts, *tachibana* (an orange), melons, etc. In the reign of the Emperor Shomu, Mandarin oranges were first planted and it was successful. In the reign of the Emperor Kotoku, cow's milk was presented to him from Korea. From then, it was regarded as an indispensable medicine. Tea was introduced nearly at the same time. Subsequently, its importation was suspended until it was again imported in the Kamakura period.

In the Heian Era, rice was cooked by steaming in a *koshiki* (a rice-steamer) as the most popular and regular method and in other cases, it was boiled in pots or kettles. This boiled rice was called *kayu*. But it was different frem *kayu* (gruel) as is so called to-day, and it was the same as the boiled rice is now.

In the early period the upper classes of people took this *kayu* for breakfast, but later, this rice was eaten much more than before. It was then called *himeii* or *katakashigi-ii*. They took *koshii* (sun-dried rice) as much as before. In treating guests at dinner, their attendants were served *ton-jiki*, or the rice-balls of to-day.

Both cleaned and uncleaned rice were used in cooking, and in most cases it was uncleaned for eating. In that period, as to-day, the consumption of rice was economized by encouraging the use of barley, etc. as substitutes. Many people made *kayu* with these articles.

Cookery advanced materially. Especially, raw fish was prepared with greater skill than before, and it was the pride of hosts to cook dexterously before guests at dinner. *Namasu* (fish salad), *atsumori* (soup) and *nitsuke* (hard boiling) were invented in this period.

Meat fell into disuse in cookery with the spread of Buddhism, although eggs came to be eaten at the same time as described in the *Kojiki* (one of the oldest Japanese books).

The birds whose flesh was most popularly eaten, were pheasants, wild-geese, wild-ducks, etc. Milk came to be drunk as the use of meat declined. It was made into *so*, a kind of buster, which was much appreciated. There was an increased number of vegetables used for food over the preceding age.

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As to fruits, etc., which were eaten then, we can mention chiefly chestnuts and persimmons and partly plums, peaches, oranges, kumquats, loquats, pomegranates, walnuts, *mitsubiki*, lotus-fruit, *akebi*, etc.

A method of making cake was introduced from China, and some kinds were made of sweentened rice and wheat flour, which were made into dumplings. There was still no sugar then, and the sweetening was got from extracts of sweet *kuzu* (arrowroot) by boiling it. *Mochi* (rice-cake) was generally used and was served each time a dinner was held in celebration. Baked rice was used on travels. Ginger, *wasabi*, seasame, etc. served as spices.

Table-wares were earthen or lacquered. At meals, they were arranged on a table. Vinegar, soy and salt were placed in vessels on the table for seasoning by the guests as they pleased. A spoon was used in eating, besides chopsticks.

Sake was drunk generally as in the preceding age. It was brewed of cleaned rice, and on that account, the supply of rice grew short for general purposes. This compelled the Emperor Heijo to order a suspension of sake brewing to prevent too great a rise in the price of rice. Tea began to be drunk about this time.

In the Kamakura period, rice was steamed for the people's regular food. The barley and wheat crop increased yearly, thanks to encouragement given to its growing since the Nara period. It had been encouraged to provide against a famine. The people were not glad to eat barley instead of rice. Rice steamed with red beans or with chestnuts began to be eaten about this time.

In Kyoto, the people took noonday meals, or three meals a day, from the preceding age. Buddhist priests took only breakfast at first, but then two meals a day. In this period, they ate three times a day. All the Kamakura and Eastern warriors took no noonday meal, but morning and evening meals, taking each time more than those eating three meals a day did as a matter of course. They liked dried fish with rice or sake. They lived plainly. But the Kyoto people indulged in table luxuries. Fowls were eaten including lark, quail and copper pheasants. Rabbit flesh was one of the delicacies. Salted fish was most appreciated of all dishes of fish. Meat was also salted in part and eaten.

More vegetable side dishes were cooked such as radish, burdock, *konbu*, pennywort, *arame*, boiled butter-burrs, pickled turnips, *mioga*, egg-plant· cucumbers, steamed beans, parched peas, garden lettuce, beans, parsley, moss (raw and salted), mushrooms boiled with sake, etc. Raw and pounded chest-nuts, dried persimmons, dried jujubes, citrons, etc. were eaten. Grapes began to be produced in Koshu in the 2nd year of Bunji (1186).

Food between meals began to be eaten in this period. They were at first called *tenshin*. The most popular were *yokan*, *udon* (wheat vermicelli), *manju* (bean-jam buns), *somen* (a kind of wheat vermicelli), rolled rice-crackers, baked rice-cake, *okoshi* (a rice cake), *hoshii* (sun-dried rice), *chimaki* (boiled rice-dumpling in bamboo wrapping), etc.

Eggs were more in use than before. Buddhist priests liked them, as they were

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prohibited to eat meat. Pheasant was most appreciated of all bird flesh. Some Buddhist priests privately took meat, and since a certain noted priest advocated flesh-eating and marriage for his fellow disciples, meat was openly taken by some priests. Sake was a favourite drink, especially by samurai. As this was attended by too much evil, however, it was officially prohibited to sell sake in Kamakura and other cities of the country in the 4th year of Kencho (1252). There were then 37,274 vats in Kamakura alone, in which was stored sake. It was forbidden afterwards to make sake, and all these sake vats were confiscated and destroyed by the Government, except one for a house which was not for keeping sake but other articles.

In the 2nd year of Bunyei (1265), another prohibition was issued of holding dinners with sake and eating expensive cake at dinner. The drinking of tea was once in abeyance, but in the 2nd year of Kenkyu (1191), Priest Eisei brought tea seeds with him on his return from China and cultivated tea on Sebu Mountain in the Province of Chikuzen. Its seeds were planted afterwards at Uji, which was the origin of the present famous Uji tea.

In this age, ice was kept in ice-houses and was used in the summer. Its uses grew extensive. Samurai in the Eastern Province appreciated snow taken from Mount Fuji in the hot season, but snow taking was prohibited afterwards by the Government, as it involved costly labour.

In the Muromachi and Momoyama periods, there was nothing different in particular from the preceding periods in popular food. Rice was taken as staple food, and barley and beans were eaten in its place by the poor classes. *Hime-ii* which began to be eaten in the Heian Era, was made a regular food, and later, it was called simply *meshi*. At the same time, tender boiled rice was called *kayu*.

As chief relishes, there were fish, flesh. fowl, vegetable and fruits, the later two or which were much increased in kind, Fish was hashed into *kamaboko* first in this age, when *tofu* (bean-curd) also began to be made. Fried vegetables, *natto* (steamed beans), *tokoroten* (gelidium jelly), *konnyaku* (kneaded devil's tongue root), *somen* and *kishimen* (wheat vermicelli) were eaten generally by the people, too. These were such dishes as *suimono* (soup), *sashimi* (raw fish slices), *kishio* (raw fish and vegetables seasoned in vineger), etc., *aimaze*, etc. *Asazuke* (garden-radish lightly preserved in salt and bran) first appeared on the dining table about this time. More kinds of food were taken between meals than before. It was also so in dressings.

Towards the shogunate of Ashikaga Yoshimitsu, cookery became delicate and skilful as a result of increased luxury and extravagance among the people, and regular lessons were given in its art by men of the Shijo and Okusa schools, where its secrets were initated to the pupils. *Shojinryori* (vegetable cooking) was commenced this time. It avoided fish and other flesh. *Mujinajiru* (a soup of raccoon-dog flesh) was a novel dainty. A table etiquette was established about this time, too.

The Azumi and Momoyama periods had no changes in particular in this direction from the Muromachi period. The Kyoto men living in luxury, took delicacies of all sorts. But the samurai class led as simple a life as before, and during the war period, they had no time to spare for enjoying tasty delicacies.

The order of dishes served to Toyotomi Hideyoshi on the occasion of his repairing to the Imperial court on being promoted to the highest court rank of *kanpaku*, was very simple. In the Keicho era (1596-1614), travellers took with them sun-dried rice of 2.50 *go*, which was soaked in hot water at the inn before being eaten.

*Kunenbo* (an o ange) was brought from a foreign land in the Tensho era (1573-1591). It was much appreciated as a rare fruit.

*(To be continued)*

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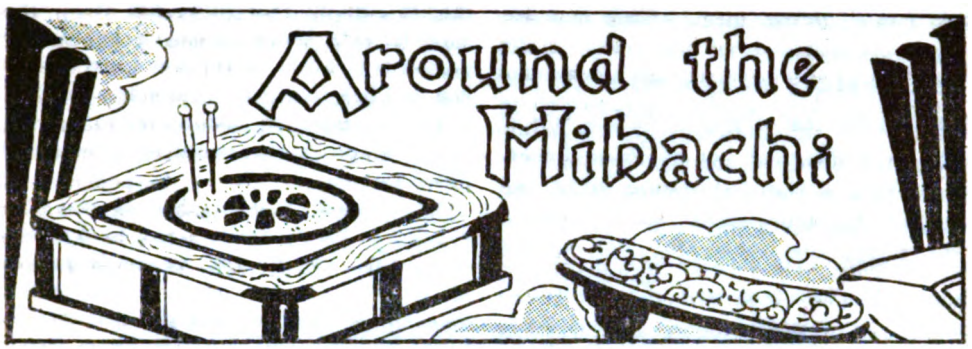


# A Wonderful Augur

ABE-no-Seimei was a famous *onyo-shi* (diviner) in the Heian Period.

The *onyo-shi* was a diviner by profession and foresaw future events. He was believed to employ a god called *shiki-gami*.

In the Heian Era, there was, in the Imperial court, an office established for diviners, of whom the chiefs were called *onyo-hakase*. These chiefs were headed by Abe-no-Seimei. He was renowned for his miraculous clairvoyant power.

One time Seimei visited the head priest of the Hensho Temple and had a talk on interesting subjects with him. Meanwhile, one of the young priests of the temple came before Seimei and inquired: "I have learned that you can employ *shiki-gami* as you please. Can you kill a man at once?"

"No," he replied quietly, "I cannot kill a man so easily, but with difficulty and only with all my might."

He said further: "It is comparatively easy to kill an insect, but not knowing how to bring it again to life, it would be a sinful act to do so, and I avoid doing even that."

Just at that moment, a frog came crawling into the garden. It made a few leaps towards the pond.

The young priest seeing it, asked Seimei: "Kill that frog, if you please, and let us see how marvelous your art is!"

Seimei laughed bitterly and said:

"How sinful you are for a Buddhist priest! If you are so eager to test my art, however, I will try."

He rose and picked a leaf, which he threw at the frog, while making a secret incantation. It fell upon the frog and covered it up. The young priest removed it quietly and found the frog crushed to death. He was frightened and turned pale.

Seimei resided at Tsuchimikado, Kyoto. One day, he was visited by an old priest, with gray head, accompanied by two ten-year old boys. He received the visitor readily.

"Excuse me, but who are you?" he asked.

The old priest replied:

"I am from the Province of Harima. I wish to become an *onyo-shi*, and having heard that none excels you in the art of divination in this country, I have come to

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ask you to permit me to study it under you."

Seimei looked fixedly at the visitor and saw that his real object of calling was to test his ability and not to learn the art from him. He was displeased at the thought that his ability was doubted by such a man. He decided to make fun of him. The two boys with him seemed to to be *shiki-gami* employed by him. He decided to put them out of their master's sight. So, he secretly conjured in his sleeve and made a secret incantation, after which he said to the priest:

"I am sorry I have an engagement to-day and am unable to talk with you any longer. Please come again. On a lucky day, I will teach you anything you want to learn of me."

The old priest thanked him for his promise and politely took leave of him. But he hesitated to go and looked round as if in search of something. Presently, he came again before Seimei. "Please be good enough to give my two boys back to me. They are missing."

"You say a strange thing," he said; "how could I take your servants?"

"You are right, sir! Please pardon me," the old priest apologized.

Seimei said:

"I only kept the boys out of your sight, regretting that you came with *shiki-gami* in an improper attempt to test my ability. It is preposterous to try me and not any one else."

So saying, he made a secret incantation, on which the two boys came running before their master.

The old priest, with a shamed look, confessed:

"I did come to test your ability. It is easy to employ *shiki-gami*, but it is very hard to hide those employed by another person as you did. I am powerless against you and beg you to admit me as a pupil."

He presented his name card to Seimei, who saw on it the name of Chitoku, a noted *onyo-shi*.

On another occasion, Seimei was proceeding to the Imperial court to attend a ceremony. On the way, he met Kurando-no-Shosho, a young noble of distinction, who was attired gaily and also was attending the court ceremony. A crow flying about over his head, let fall its droppings on his fine dress. Seimei noticed it and felt sorry for the young noble, for in it he saw clearly that an invisible *shiki-gami* was acting against him, employed by an *onyo-shi*.

Seimei drew near to the young noble and said:

"You are repairing to the court, are you, sir? You are unlucky and will lose your life before to-morrow morning, unless you resign yourself to my guidance."

The young noble, who was confident of the marvelous power of Seimei, readily accepted his advice and said, in a trembling voice, "How dreadful! Please be kind enough to save me, my friend."

The two in the same ox-cart, reached the mansion of the young noble at dusk.

When they entered the house, Seimei held the young noble and made a secret incantation. Then, he offered prayers all the night.

At dawn, some one visited the young noble and tapped at the door. Seimei ordered the servant to open the door.

The visitor was ushered in. He was a messenger from an *onyo-shi*, who had cast spells on the young noble. His message was: "I made an attempt to kill the young noble by prayers by employing *shiki-gami*, at the request of Kurando-no-Goi, but he being guarded by one excelling me in the art, I have been unable to resist his counter-prayers. So, I am killing myself."

Seimei said to the young noble:

"What do you think on hearing that

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message? Had I not met you and found you possessed, you would have been dead by now."

Seimei sent the noble's servant to the *onyo-shi* to see what had become of him. He went with the messenger and found the *onyo-shi* dead.

The young noble and Kurando-no-Goi had married daughters of a high dignitary. The young noble was rapidly elevated in position, and Kurando-no-Goi not. On this account, the father-in-law more respected the former than the latter, who was profoundly envious, and tried to kill the other through the *onyo-shi*.

Hearing of this event, Kurando-no-Goi was driven out by his father-in-law.

The young noble thanked Seimei heartily and with tears and amply remunerated him.

Transferring the spring to canvas—a common scene in Japanese parks and other favored places.

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THE RED CROSS
WITH
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# THE RED CROSS WITH OF JAPAN

## General Meeting of the Society

THE 35th Ordinary General Meeting of the Japan Red Cross Society was held on May 5 in the Constitution Memorial Hall in Aoyama, Tokyo. The day fell on the Boys' Festival. The weather of early summer was serene and fine, the young green leaves were refreshing.

From 7 o'clock in the morning the hall was already crowded, and by the hour of opening the meeting there were present about seven thousand people, including those specially invited, members coming from various localities throughout the country numbering five thousand.

At 10 a.m. H.I.H. Princess Asaka, representing Her Majesty the Empress, arrived and was received by H.I.H. Prince Kanin, Honorary President of the Society, and Baron Hirayama, President, at the entrance. After a short rest, Her Imperial Highness listened to the reports made by Baron Hirayama, and was told of the present condition of the Society.

Soon the Honorary President entered the main hall, which was followed by President Baron Hirayama's opening address and reports. Then the re-election of the standing members of the council and supervisors was carried out.

H.I.H. Princess Asaka, ushered by President Baron Hirayama, then entered the hall, respectfully welcomed by all present. She read Her Majesty's message, to which Prince Kanin, Honorary President, made reply.

At half past ten the meeting ended with a closing address by Baron Hirayama. Her Majesty's representative then left the hall.

The affairs of the Japan Red Cross Society improve year after year, the number of its members now having reached the mammoth figure of 2,500,000.

## Foreign Sympathy for the Tango Disaster

On the occurrence of the severe earthquake in the northern part of Tango Province, the Red Cross League expressed its profound sympathy with the sufferers, and signified its willingness to the Japan Red Cross to give international assistance in the relief work, if desired. The Japan Red Cross carefully considered the kind offer and found it unnecessary to accept it on the present occasion. The Society telegraphically replied to the league that the relief work could be accomplished without outside help, while it feels sincerely grateful for the kindness of the league.

In our last issue, it was reported that money had been contributed to the Japan Red Cross towards its relief fund for the sufferers from the Tango earthquake by the American Red Cross, the Red Cross of the Soviet Confederation and the New Crescent League. Further, on March 10, a telegram of profound sympathy was received by the Japan Red Cross from the Italian Red Cross, which was follow-

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ed by one from the Chinese Red Cross and one from Judge Payne, chairman of the Executive Committee of the Red Cross League on March 11, and one from the Soviet Confederation representing the headquarters of the New Crescent Society on March 16. The Japan Red Cross at once sent telegrams of thanks to all of these messages.

### Contribution of Money to Relief Funds Abroad.

In January, the Japan Red Cross contributed 1,000 yen towards the relief fund for the sufferers from the floods in the Malay Peninsula and 500 yen each towards the funds for the sufferers from the earthquake in Portugal and sufferers from the earthquake in Armenia. The Japan Red Cross was cordially thanked by the respective Relief Committees.

### The Tuberculosis Hospitals

During January, the Osaka Tuberculosis Hospital and its eight branch hospitals had 225 in-patents, of whom 128 were paid. There were in the same month 633 out-patients, of whom 495 were paid.

### Protection of Infants and Maternity

During February, 1927, the head and branch Maternity Hospitals of the Japan Red Cross had 412 in-patients, of whom 277 were paid, and had 365 babies, of which 246 were paid. During the same month, the out-patients numbered 1,235, of whom 44 had babies.

### Juvenile Red Cross Members Publicly Commended

Chief Hayakawa of the Juvenile Red Cross Association at Morooka, Kamigori, Miyagi-ken and Miss Shimada of the same association at Kanayama, Igu-gori in the same prefecture have been publicly commended as model members of the Juvenile Red Cross by Mr. Tezuka, Chief of the local chapter of the Japan Red Cross.

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# The Editor's Diary

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# The Editor's Diary

APRIL 9.—Dr. Shimojo is said to be engaged in research concerning the transplantation of human hair, and he hopes to succeed in transplanting hair from the head of one man to another.

April 10.—In the first ten days of April, the foreign trade of Japan amounted to 53,365,000 yen in exports and to 87,-061,000 yen in imports, the balance of which stands at 33,696,000 yen against Japan. This excess of imports over exports shows an increase of 5,524,000 yen over the preceding ten days and is the largest figure recorded for any single ten days since last January, due mainly to the growth of raw cotton imports, which amounted to 34,793,000 yen, gaining 18,309,000 yen over the preceding ten days.

April 11.—The naval authorities have decided to hold grand manoeuvres in the middle of October under the personal supervision of the Emperor. The scene of battle will extend from Formosa in the south to Saghalien in the north.

April 12.—It is reported by the Finance Department that in the fiscal year 1926-1927, 55,833,000 yen worth of Natuonal Bonds were repaid, consisting of 37,711,-000 yen of domestic bonds and 18,122,-000 yen of foreign bonds.

April 14.—In the trial of university and college students charged with radicalism the Chief Public Procurator demanded imprisonment for periods ranging one to three years under Art. 2 of the Law for the Maintenance of Peace.

April 15.—The Bank of Taiwan having fallen into financial difficulties in consequence of large loans to Suzuki & Co., Kobe, the Government decided to relieve it through the Bank of Japan loaning it 200,000,000 yen by means of an urgent Imperial ordinance, subject to the approval of the Privy Council. The latter's committee rejected the scheme.

Apr. 16.—The Directors of the Bank of Japan decided not to advance money to the Bank of Taiwan on and after the 16th, expecting the proposed urgent Imperial ordinance for the relief of the latter bank to be rejected by the Privy Council.

Apr. 17.—At 2 p.m. the Privy Council met in the Imperial palace in the presence of the Emperor to make their final decision as to the Government proposal to relieve the Bank of Taiwan by issuing an urgent Imperial ordinance. After a warm debate, the proposal was rejected, as recommended by the Council's Committee.

In consequence, the Premier, Mr. Wakatsuki proceeded to the Akasaka Palace and was received in audience by the Emperor, to whom he presented his and his Cabinet's resignations. The Directors of the Bank of Japan met to consider means to meet the emergency in the financial world, that would be developed by the political change.

Apr. 18.—The Bank of Taiwan decided to close for three weeks all offices and home and abroad, except in Formosa. This threw the financial world into a

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panic, compelling some more banks to suspend payment.

Apr. 19.—The Imperial command was given to Baron Tanaka, President of the Seiyu Party, to form the succeeding Cabinet.

Since the beginning of the financial disturbances, the Bank of Japan advanced money up to date to the total of 870,000,000 yen to various banks in anticipation of runs.

Apr. 20.—Baron Tanaka proceeded to the Imperial palace and presented to the Throne the names of his Cabinet.

Later, the ceremony of installation of the Premier and his Cabinet was held in the Imperial palace in the presence of the Emperor. At the same time, the Emperor granted the resignation of the Wakatsuki Cabinet.

Apr. 21.—The 15th Bank, one of the most important banks in Japan, which is a depository of the Imperial Household Department, announced suspension of payments for three weeks. The bank is popularly known as the Peers' Bank, and has an immense amount of deposits by peers and moreover, its shares are their hereditary property. Its suspension, therefore, had a serious and extensive effect. The bank has a capital of 100,000,000 yen, of which 49,750,000 yen is paid up, loans of 350,000,000 yen and deposits of 368,000,000 yen.

A conflagration broke out in Kanazawa, Ishikawa Prefecture, destroying wholly or partially 610 houses.

Apr. 22.—The Privy Council gave approval to the Government's proposal to enforce a moratorium throughout Japan by issuing an urgent Imperial ordinance, as a means to relieve the financial world from the existing panic. The Government obtained the Imperial sanction and announced it to-day.

All banks throughout the country closed for two days, the 22nd and 23rd, acting in concert with the Government for restoring confidence.

April 22.—Viscount Saito, Japanese Chief Delegate to the Three-Power Naval Disarmament Conference, and his party sailed from Kobe by the *Awa-Maru* of the N.Y.K. reserved specially for them.

Apr. 23.—The Kensei Party, the Seiyu-Honto and the Shinsei Club agreed to amalgamate.

Apr. 24.—In to-day's *Official Gazette*, it was announced that two new notes, 50 yen and 200 yen, will be issued by the Bank of Japan under the Bank Issue Law. This is to facilitate the bank's note making at the present moment. These notes will be called in as soon as possible.

Apr. 25.—The money market was quiet in Tokyo and elsewhere on the general resumption of business by the banks to-day after closing for the preceding two days, contrary to some public apprehension, although a few savings banks had somewhat unusual withdrawals of deposits.

Apr. 26.—Mayor Nishikubo of Tokyo recently laid the actual condition of the municipal administration before the Emperor and replied to various questions from His Majesty. It has been ar for aranged day when the citizens may write anything they wish to request or suggest to the Mayor in regard to the Municipal administration.

Apr. 27.—The Government having considered changes in the personnel of

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[illegible] compelling some more banks to [illegible]

Apr. 19. —The Imperial command was [illegible] Ton Tanaka, President of the [illegible] Party, to form the succeeding Cabinet.

[illegible] joining of the Russo-Japanese [illegible] Bank of Japan advanced [illegible] to ease to the total of Tw[illegible] [illegible] various banks in anticipation [illegible]

Apr. 20. —Baron Yan[illegible] ordered to [illegible] and presented to the [illegible] the names of his Cabinet

[illegible] the ceremony of installation of [illegible] and his Cabinet was held in [illegible] Hall palace in the presence of the [illegible] At the same time, the Imperial [illegible] the following:

[illegible] 21. —The 15th Party [illegible] to the [illegible] and in Japan, which is [illegible] copy of the Imperial Household [illegible] announced yesterday to [illegible] three weeks. The book is [illegible] known as the Prince's Book, and [illegible] the private memoirs of [illegible] his [illegible] more, its chapters are under [illegible] private perusal. Its suspension [illegible] and a second reading [illegible] The book has a capital of 100,[illegible] yen, of which ¥72,500,00 yen [illegible] ¥50,000,000 yen and [illegible] of 200,000,000 yen.

A coal-gas plant broke out in Kawasaki, Izumi Province, destroying [illegible] partially 600 houses.

Apr. 22. —The Privy Council [illegible] to the Government's proposal to [illegible] a conversion thereof into Japanese [illegible] at the Imperial ordinance, [illegible] to relieve the financial world [illegible]

[illegible] from the Privy Council and the Lower House [illegible] 22. [illegible] Yamamoto [illegible] (Count Hayashi [illegible] to the Privy [illegible] Mr. [illegible] as Communications and his [illegible] at the Kaiseki [illegible] and unofficially [illegible] them.

Apr. [illegible] Kawai [illegible] Seiyukai [illegible] and Count [illegible] to [illegible]

Apr. 25. —In reply to [illegible] a [illegible] Baron Kato [illegible] [illegible] Count Okuma [illegible] [illegible] Count Okuma [illegible] [illegible] Japan [illegible] the Bank Issue [illegible] The Bill is to facilitate the Bank's [illegible] making at any present [illegible] notes would be issued [illegible]

Apr. 25. The money market was quiet in Tokyo and clearings [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

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prefectural Governors, preliminary to the next general election, which is expected before long, decided to release from office or transfer thirty Governors.

Apr. 28.—To-day's Cabinet council adopted the Finance Department draft Law for Loss Indemnity to the Bank of of Japan, which is to be presented to the extraordinary session of the Diet to be convened soon.

Apr. 29.—To-day was the first celebration of the Emperor's birthday since he ascended the throne, but the court being in mourning, the usual ceremonies of congratulation, banquet and military review were not held, although rites were observed in the Imperial Sanctuary.

Apr. 30.—Mr. H. Motoda, advisor to the Seiyu-Honto, opposing the joining of his party with the Kensei Party, signified his intention to leave the party on the coalition assuming concrete form.

May 1.—May Day was celebrated in Tokyo by 15,000 labourers. They assembled at Arimaga-hara and paraded through the city. The procession occupied two miles. At 4 p.m. they reached Uyeno Park, cheered and dispersed. The Metropolitan police watched them strictly as usual. The demonstration was, however, eventless and only 145 men were restrained.

May. 2.—A social meeting was held by members of the proposed coalition party at the Tokyo Kai-kwan. About 500 persons were present, including Mr. Wakatsuki, President of the Kensei Party, Mr. Tokonami, President of the Seiyu-Honto, and other members of the two parties and the Shinsei Club.

May 3.—An extraordinary session of the Diet was convened to-day to consider measures for dealing with the grave situation in the money market.

The Finance Department reports an excess of imports over exports of 72,201,000 yen for April, 2,677,000 yen below the same month, 1926.

May 4.—The ceremony of opening the extraordinary session of the Diet was held this morning in the House of Peers. H. M. the Emperor, in the full dress of Generalissimo, and accompanied by T. I.H. Prince Chichibu and Prince Takamatsu and T.I.H. Prince Higashi-Kuni, Prince Asaka and Prince Yamashina, personally read his message opening the Diet.

May 5.—To-day the Boys' Festival was celebrated with displays of doll soldiers in the houses and outside streamers of paper fish flying high above the roofs.

In the Diet, the Government Financial Stabilization Bills were discussed and searching questions were put by the Opposition.

May 6.—The new political party decided to submit to the Diet the following resolution:—

"Resolved that the Imperial Diet considers it unjust that the preceeding Cabinet having asked for the Imperial sanction to promulgate an urgent Imperial ordinance for preventing the further disturbances of the financial world and for maintaining public peace and security, the Privy Council opposed it in its reply to the Imperial inquiry and gave rise to the subsequent unprecedented financial agitation."

May 7.—Mr. K. Nezu and some other prominent business men project a rapid transit electric railway between Tokyo and Osaka with a capital of 250,000,000 yen, connecting the two places in six hours. It is being watched with interest how the application for a franchise will be treated by the Railway Ministry.

May 8.—To-day the Government bills for financial relief passed the Diet with slight amendments.

May 9.—In to-day's *Official Gazette*, the Law for indemnity of losses to the Bank of Japan was promulgated as approved by the Diet, taking effect immediately.

The extraordinary session of the Diet closed to-day.

The Bank of Taiwan re-opened business in Japan proper and abroad.

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